Department of Social Sciences

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

SOUVENIR
1963 - 2013

...you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land...

Lev.25:10

LADY DOAK COLLEGE
Madurai
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

We cannot do anything against the truth,
But only for the truth.
-II Cor. 13:8

LADY DOAK COLLEGE
(Autonomous, Reaccredited with Grade ‘A’ by NAAC
College with Potential for Excellence and ISO Certified)
Madurai – 625 002, Tamilnadu, India.

GOLDEN JUBILEE SOUVENIR
1963-2013

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
MISSION STATEMENT

The Department aims to develop personal, social, and professional competencies to be sensitive and proactive to the needs of the society.

QUALITY POLICY

We at Lady Doak College aim to offer holistic education in Arts, Science and Business Studies for the empowerment of women from all strata of society by promoting academic excellence, employability and leadership with social commitment.
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Dear Dr. Caroline,

I congratulate you and your team of vibrant faculty during this Golden Jubilee year celebration for your enthusiasm and energy exhibited!

I am happy to be present as part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the department as you organized a spectrum of activities. As the department enters into the next phase of its educational service, I wish that the department revisits its mission and formulates it according to the needs in the 21st century. Currently, this is the only department in the college that offers a double major undergraduate curriculum with a wide scope for employment and higher studies. Since Psychology is the study of behavior of mind and Sociology which gives attention to the social settings and the individuals role within, a curricular package of these two subjects will prepare an individual to contribute profitably for the development of the society.

In the current context of various demands in the society, there is huge need among the people for acquiring a basic understanding of Psychology and Sociology. I wish to challenge the Department in evolving a strategy to offer Certificate and Diploma level courses in Sociology and Psychology as online courses in the years to come.

The department has lots of collaborations for their academic programs. The existing academic expertise combined with their ability of networking with other experts, the department can take up pioneering efforts in offering online courses in Sociology and Psychology as the department moves towards its Diamond Jubilee.

With Best Wishes,

[Signature]

Dr. A. Mercy Pushpalatha
FELICITATIONS

Ms. SHANTI MANUEL
FORMER PRINCIPAL (1967 – 1993)

&

PROFESSOR IN PSYCHOLOGY
LADY DOAK COLLEGE

I congratulate you, the faculty and students of the department of Social Sciences on your Golden Jubilee celebrations. Fifty exciting years of learning, teaching, projects and extension work. This is indeed a time for looking back and looking forward. I have been a member of the department of Social Sciences for twenty six years. Earlier, I was a member of the Department of Philosophy which was the forerunner of the department of Social Sciences. From 1955-1958, I taught Psychology and Sociology in the department of Philosophy. Dr. Elizabeth George, the professor and head of the department was also the Vice-Principal of the college. She was a truly great woman. She had a marvellous mind with a tremendous sense of justice and fairplay combined with a subtle sense of humor. We called her the Mighty Atom. She was a frail and tiny woman. It was she, who first conceived of the development of a Social Sciences department for the college, which was established in 1962. Now the department of Social Sciences has developed into a post graduate department with masters in Social Work and two diploma programmes, diploma in Human Resources and diploma in Counseling. The faculty and students use modern technology with ease for the purpose of teaching and learning. I hope the faculty and students of this department will use technology, power point and smart class rooms judiciously and not be enslaved by them. Technology can never be a substitute for the excellence of the human mind and spirit. Let us continue to learn to think, reflect, relate ideas and reason. Let us seek and strive to understand concepts of multiple causation, probability, relativity, uncertainty and indeterminism, deductive and inductive inference. Perhaps, you could plan to include Logic, Philosophy and study of Ethics as a Science in your list of optionals or electives for a student of Social Sciences. Let all the information and knowledge we seek lead us further to apply our minds to wisdom. With pride and gratitude for the past achievements, may the faculty and students of the department of Social Sciences travel towards the future with courage, hope and determination.
It gives me great pleasure to felicitate the staff and students of the department of Social Sciences on reaching the golden milestone in the history of the department. Though my association with the department was brief, I have very fond memories of my interactions with its faculty. I know that during these fifty years there were many achievements that brought laurels not only to the staff and students of the department but also to the college. A visit to the department was always delightful.

The combination of History, Sociology and Psychology that form the fabric of the department of Social Sciences has been very successful indeed in making it a vibrant part of the college community. The able, youthful and enthusiastic teachers of the department bring out the best in the students. I was particularly impressed and delighted by the department song, which was so meaningful. I am told that it was written and set to music, all by the students! No wonder they love singing it and thus put so much feeling in the rendering of the song.

I am sure the vibrant department of Social Sciences of Lady Doak College will grow from strength to strength in the coming years. It would see its students and alumnae contribute not only to the quality of life of Lady Doak College, but wherever they find themselves to be.

May you grow from strength to strength and be a blessing to many.
I congratulate the former and present HoDs, faculty and students of the department of Social Sciences for its growth and achievements in the past 50 years. The department has been unique in many ways. B.A. Social Sciences in Lady Doak College was unique as a triple major program, combining courses from Sociology, Psychology and History and facilitating a contextual and project-based learning to benefit the local communities both rural and urban. I appreciate the department for changing over from a triple major program to a double major program offering B.A. Psychology and Sociology in 2008-09.

Initiation of many innovative courses such as Public Relations, Human Resource Development and recently, Counseling & Psychotherapy at the diploma level is a proof of their creativity and sensitivity to the current educational needs and trends. In 2004-05 the department was raised to the status of a Post Graduate department, offering M.A in Applied Social Sciences which was later changed to Masters in Social Work. I very much hope and wish that the present HoD and faculty will lead the department to attain the status of a Research Center and contribute to the transformation of our society into a just and humane one.

May the good Lord strengthen and guide the department in setting the right direction for further development to benefit the learner and the community at large.

My prayers and best wishes to the faculty, alumnae and students of the department.
Dr. AJ THINKARAN  
FORMER HEAD (1963 – 1986) 
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

At the outset, I would like to congratulate the department of Social Sciences for its rapid strides of progress made during the fifty years of its existence since its inception in 1963. I had the privilege of heading the department from that year till my retirement from service. Further, I had the pleasure of teaching History which was given weightage equal to that of the other two subjects offered namely, Sociology and Psychology. But in the course of time, History has been relegated to an ancillary status due to social needs, aspirations and compulsions. However, I appreciate the move of the department towards making the courses offered at Under Graduate and Post Graduate levels as career – oriented, leading to human engineering with technocratic skills. Hence, the appellation ‘Social Sciences’ has ceased to be denigrated as a misnomer. The department could now stand on par with any other department of science – be it Physical, Chemical or Biological, etc.

I am sure that the department will rise to new heights of excellence before it strikes a century of its existence. Knowledge explosion is to happen through further innovation and enterprise by the department, which should be applied to resource the mounting gargantuan problems of the society. The most pressing problem is the artificial and abysmal divide between the privileged minority and the underprivileged majority – termed ‘the second partition’ of India. The department of Social Sciences should be able to produce well equipped, incorruptible and visionary leaders whose mission would be to bridge the gap and work for the creation of an egalitarian society. I wish the Department every success in this endeavor and invoke God’s blessings on it!
I thank you for inviting me to the “get-together” of the Alumnae Meet of the department and the honor you bestowed on me on that occasion. I humbly acknowledge and thank you for the same. Indeed it was a great day for me, to spend sometime in the company of my dear colleagues and students. I cherish these sweet thoughts and memories of my beloved department.

One of the unique features of our department as I have experienced is the “homely atmosphere” it provided to the faculty. The team of faculty felt ‘at home’ with each other and this made planning and working less stressful. There was no dereliction or negligence of duty or slothfulness. I still remember the long hours of work we had during our curriculum planning for Autonomy of the college and the department did not feel the strain of it because, working was fun at such times.

It makes me happy to see that the department has grown both in number and quality. There are changes made in the curriculum and the courses to meet the needs of the growing society. I would like to express my appreciation and in this regard, I suggest the following new courses for consideration: Crime against women, children and the role of media & International relations and global culture.

Finally, I wish you great success in all your undertakings for the growth and development of the Social Sciences department. May you strive more in the field of the development of Christian ethical principles that can be seen in the teachings of Jesus Christ. My prayers and vision for Lady Doak College in general and Social Sciences in particular is that, the graduates who pass out of the portals of Lady Doak College be empowered, dignified and confident to live their lives in a manner that makes the world a better place to live.
Completion of fifty years is a lifetime achievement but the ‘how’ of completion is a billion dollar question. The department which had a humble beginning with one faculty and a very few students has grown reasonably strong today with ten full time faculty members and more than 180 students. The society which had kept social sciences as the last option in higher education in the beginning of IT era has realized its ignorance and has rectified its order of choice and is being condoned for the irreparable damage caused. The subject which was enlisted under non-utility value has caused regrets beyond consolation. Passing through these various phases of ups and downs, the department is breathing fresh air as there are wide scopes for the discipline cutting across narrow borders and boundaries of particular subjects and fields of study. Fast erosion of fundamental values, degradation of ethics and morality, contamination of consumerism and insatiable thrust for lust, money and power have uprooted the very foundation of the society and now the world is looking at academics for reconstruction. A new era of reformation and refinement would strengthen the roots of Social Sciences and bring forth multiple fruits of peace, harmony and love in the place of resentment, distress and selfishness.

This has widened the scope for Social Sciences and I wish the department to be a catalyst in transforming the world which will be its greatest achievement in its journey of reaching the next stage, the diamond jubilee year.
Having been associated with the department of Social Sciences, Lady Doak College, Madurai for the greater part of its existence and service, it is with considerable pride and pleasure, we congratulate you on reaching the significant milestone of its Golden Jubilee. We wish the management and all staff members every success and a very memorable Golden Jubilee year. Reaching 50 years of service is a massive achievement and should be celebrated with full enthusiasm.

The Bethshan special school for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is happy to have ties with the department of Social Sciences, during the past few years to share and serve the community through various activities. The Memorandum of Understanding that we had with your department was helpful to pave ways for reaching the community and implementing innovative projects for the students with Intellectual and Developmental disabilities to a greater extent. Moreover, it helps to share the expertise knowledge mutually. The bond of the relation you share with us really strengthens with time. Lady Doak College has grown in stature and number over the years and we hope that this will continue in the years to come. May I take this opportunity to congratulate the department as it celebrates its Golden Jubilee year. This is indeed a milestone in achievement for all concerned. Finally I would like to quote a word from the Holy Bible, “Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established”. Proverbs 16:3
Congratulations for completing 50 successful years of Journey in structuring the future of India as responsible citizens. At the outset, it is a great privilege for me to have been associated with your department in various capacities and in particular for the block placement of your students.

Aravind Eye Hospital has been a field of learning for most of the colleges, institutions and other organizations both within the country and abroad. For the past 10 years we have structured practice and guidelines to enable the student’s classroom learning into practicality when they come for block placement or summer internship programme at Aravind.

From our experience, we have observed that in whichever college faculty pay special attention and onsite visit to our organization while their students are on their block/summer placement, the quality of student’s work and learning really improves. We have seen the faculty from your department making surprise visits to Aravind to know the progress of their students. This dedication and commitment of faculty have really built a strong culture and values among your students.

We highly appreciate and acknowledge the conduct of your students during their placement here and often quote them as examples to other students. Their punctuality, level of responsibility, attitude and conduct, reports and presentations excel the students from other educational institutions. Keep doing this excellent work of moulding the students’ abilities.

Our best wishes to the faculty and the department of Social Sciences.
Greetings from Russ Foundation India,

It gives me immense pleasure to congratulate you, the management, teaching, non-teaching staff and the students of the department of Social Sciences, on the eve of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee year of the department. Russ Foundation had been closely associated with the college for more than two decades but the collaboration activities were more with the department of Social Sciences. The growth of the department over the past years had been phenomenal that you have brought out pupil with quality, commitment and compassion which has strengthened the activities not only in the field but also in the society.

On behalf of Russ Foundation, I wish the entire faculty in the department of Social Sciences and all the students, the best in your personal and professional lives.
I used to think that HR as a function was practiced more by corporate and MNCs. Hence I was pleasantly surprised when our Small and Medium Enterprises received a mail from the Social Sciences department of Lady Doak College requesting permission for internship and project for two of its students. This happened three years back. Since then it has become a regular feature every year. Such is the influence of the students that the management and staff have started looking for these annual visits. Every year we have started using their visits to upgrade our HR department and introduce innovative developments for continuous improvement. I recall an incident when two of your students started cleaning our conference room after counseling and training session for our staff. When I asked them why you are doing this they replied to my surprise that this is also a part of their training. I could only wonder about their attitude and influence the department has played. From scratch, these people created a functional HR department for which I am grateful to the department of Social Sciences. They have implemented a lot of new systems, projects, conducted training and counseling sessions and helped in formulating policies and guidelines. Looking back at the amount of impact they have created in a Small and Medium Enterprises like ours I can only marvel at the result obtained. The best part is the supportive role played by the faculty members in guiding the students. Those are the people who understand the industry well and try to offer practical and field tested solutions. I used to wonder about the extremely positive attitude of the students which has often led me to comment to your faculty about the type of culture prevailing in your department. I thank you a lot in making a difference in our organisation and wish you to reach more innovative milestones in the future.
Mr. SIVAKUMAR J
HEAD - HUMAN RESOURCES
MECCANOTECNICA INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
MECCANOTECNICA UMBRA GROUP

If we educate a woman, we educate a society. Woman plays a pivot role as a mother. A mother is the first teacher to a child. A woman is molded in all positive ways in a reputed institution like Lady Doak College, which has worldwide recognition. In such a renowned college, the department of Social Sciences not only educates women, but renders social leaders, well versed literateur and brilliant Human Resource personnel for the Indian industries and the society.

Whenever I interact with the students of Social Sciences department, I feel immense pleasure to find out their intelligence, general knowledge and their participation in various extracurricular activities. Needless to say that department of Social Sciences sows the seeds of self dependence and courage in every student. Students are trained in such a way that they can survive in any corner of the world.

If we consider Lady Doak College as a gold jewel, the department of Social Sciences is a diamond that decks the jewel. I express my heartiest felicitations to the God blessed institution and the special wishes to the department of Social Sciences for completing 50 years and for its invaluable service to the society.
Ms. CYNTHIA TIPHAGNE,
PEOPLE’S WATCH – SUDHANHTHA

A salutation to the Social Sciences department as it celebrates its golden jubilee in the annals of academic excellence. Congratulations to the founders of this great institution called ‘Lady Doak’, whose vision encompassed a mission through Social Sciences. Kudos to the faculty and students whose horizons have been widened with a social perspective to encompass the women in distress, the marginalized and the discriminated, in an unequal gender biased society of today. Your reach and mission has touched and changed the lives of women, thereby creating a society, wherein women stand up for their self-respect and dignity.

Keep up the good work and may your mission reach every nook and corner.
It is undeniably a great pleasure to know that the department of Social Sciences, which is a premier establishment in the field of education, is now celebrating its Golden Jubilee year. Its reputation as an outstanding college of teaching is evident from its dedicated teachers, staffs, its bright students and its alumni. The progress being made by your institute in the field of Social Science is praiseworthy.

I take this occasion to accolade the academic and administrative staff of the institution and express my best wishes to them for all the future undertakings.
At the outset, I am very delighted to record my felicitations to the ‘department of Social Sciences’, Lady Doak College with profound greetings and wishes.

The department needs to be appreciated for the values in its vision to cater to the educational needs of the students, appropriate to the demands of the society.

The faculty has been very positive minded and accommodative to suggestions from professional experts and organizations offered to the department for the betterment towards the cause of Higher Education. The department has always been in the forefront to make the learning experience for the students a truly experiential module, which indeed is the need of the hour, particularly for a department like Social Sciences.

As a member of the Board of Studies and as an external examiner for fieldwork, I have been very comfortable in collaborating with staff and students of the department during the past few years.

I reckon that this department will take on itself the role of being a catalyst towards a very meaningful concept of ushering in “Social Change”!
Greetings from the family of Thiyagam.

I am glad and very happy to write a few lines about Lady Doak College.

“A great thing that a lamp can do which cannot be done by sun is, a lamp gives light in the dark. So, it is worth to be a little lamp always, simple but strong and needful. “

We strongly believe that the outcome of every programme of your department creates great impact on Lady Doak College and the society.

We all pray to Almighty Lord to bestow on you all peace and prosperity.
Ms. RAJESHWARI
MANAGER – TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT
HITECH ARAI PRIVATE LIMITED, MADURAI

I am very happy to know that the department of Social Sciences of Lady Doak College, Madurai is successfully completing 50 years by 2013. At the outset I convey my heartfelt wishes for the Golden Jubilee celebrations. I have been associated with the department for a number of years and witnessed the remarkable progress. The department is striving towards greater heights with its teamwork and concerted efforts. It is the individual and collective contribution of each faculty member in achieving this milestone with a great sense of satisfaction and fulfillment. The students imbibe pragmatic qualities from the excellent teachers and set industrial needs through academic standards. I extend my warmest wishes to all members of the department. I am sure that the department will continue to maintain its excellence and character with great distinction. May God strengthen the department to flourish in the forth coming years.
Ms. SANJEETHA V
MANAGER - TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT,
APARAJITHA CORPORATE SERVICES LIMITED

It is always a pleasure to hear the 3 letters, LDC. Being an alumna, and a former faculty of this esteemed and prestigious institution, I feel very happy and proud to pen my experience as a member of one of your fieldwork organisations.

Lady Doak College, my Alma mater is always special to me and today I am very happy to note that the department of Social Sciences is celebrating its Golden Jubilee year.

I feel proud to be associated as a member of one of your fieldwork organisations. We have always found your students smart and keen to learn!
HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT

On July 14, 1949, Lady Doak College was born. This was the first women’s college in Madurai and the fourth women’s college in the presidency of Madras, founded by Ms. Katie Wilcox with the generous contributions made by Lady Helen Doak and other well wishers, both in India and abroad. Since the inception of Lady Doak College, Psychology was introduced as a subject under part III for Intermediate students and Ms. Shanti Manuel was a product of the Intermediate Programme. Later when the undergraduate programme in Philosophy had been introduced in the year 1954, Psychology remained as part of this department and Sociology was also brought in. Slowly, Psychology faculty from the department of Philosophy and History faculty from the department of Economics and a new Sociology person became a team to form the department of Social Sciences.

In 1963, Ms. Gnanadickam, Principal, in her Annual Report said that “The College is not only a seat of learning, but also a preview of a more perfect society”. And she envisaged that the introduction of Social Sciences would equip the students to be better citizens. The beginning of department of Social Sciences coincided with the Crystal Jubilee (15th year) Celebration of Lady Doak College, Completion of the college hall building and the inception of Madurai University. Ms. Elizabeth George, pioneer in teaching psychology in the Department, Ms T.N. Seethamma of Sociology and Mrs A.J. Thinakaran of History and Ms. Irene Periyanayagam of Anthropology formed the team.

In 1974, at the candle light service, the teachers of the department had said “We view our disciplines as sciences since we seek and have tried to help the students understand, predict, and control human nature and human behaviour”. The students had responded saying that they have begun to understand their inner thoughts and motives. We marvel at the complexity of human life, at the rich variety of human cultures at the seemingly endless chain of cause and effect reaching back into Pre – History and forward into future. We have learnt the value of society, people, wisdom and courage. Social Sciences Association was formed as part of the department programme which conducted series of guest lectures on various relevant and latest themes. The current events club was also a part of the association. This was active since the inception of the department to do a good service to the student’s community. The year 1963 – 1964 was also historically a turbulent period globally and locally due to the assassination of John F.Kennedy and Chinese aggression on India.
Hence the department took up these issues to create global awareness. The college was always quite sensitive to historical facts and that is why the Chapel itself was built in the shape of a fish, the emblem of Pandian Empire and a secret symbol of early churches.

The faculty at the time of inception were Ms A.J. Thinakaran, Ms. T.N. Seethamma, Ms. Irene Periyanayagam and Ms. R. Vedambal. The Department of Philosophy was closed in 1968. Dr Wilhelmson prize which was originally installed for a best candidate in Psychology in the pre-university examination was later given to the best candidate in Social Sciences.
Team work is one of the strengths of the department. The combination of different subjects and the growth of the department blend successfully due to the excellent team work exhibited by the former faculty of the department of social sciences.

The trend of this team work which was set by our predecessors is still valued and cherished by the present faculty and all credit goes to the team of faculty who had the privilege of entering into the silver jubilee year of the department of social sciences.
## FORMER FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

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<td>Ms. Elizabeth Mathew</td>
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<td>Ms. Nirmala Wycliff</td>
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<td>Ms. Susan Abraham</td>
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GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
1963-2013

STUDENT STRENGTH

BA PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

POST GRADUATE IN HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

M A APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES

MASTERS IN SOCIAL WORK

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN COUNSELING AND PSYCHOTHERAPY

2011 - 2012  2012 - 2013
OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OUR STUDENTS

LADY DOAK PRIZE WINNERS:
Lady Doak Prize and Certificate of recognition is awarded to the best outgoing student for her consistent, credible and excellent participation in the various aspects of college life while maintaining a uniformly high academic record. The following are the students who were awarded with the Lady Doak Prize

- V.G Booma -1983
- S. Bhuvaneshawari –1993
- Tepillah Jeyaraj - 2003
- Sukanya Sathish - 2003

- S Ramya of under graduate program was selected as the College Union President in the year 2011.

NATIONAL LEVEL PARTICIPATION

INTERNATIONAL LEVEL PARTICIPATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENTS</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Sylvia Jeyakumar</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Bala praveena</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Anne Nirmala</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Susan Linda Rajkumar</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Priyadharshini</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td>Ms. Pavithra</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td>Ms. Gayatri</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Saraswathi Nandhini</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Jane Susan</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>2011</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MILESTONES OF THE DEPARTMENT

2013-GOLDEN JUBILEE

2007-CERTIFICATE COURSE IN COUNSELING

2004-POST GRADUATE PROGRAMME

1998-POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

1963-UNDER GRADUATE PROGRAMME
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DEPARTMENT

B. A. Social Sciences (1963-2007)

A unique combination of three majors – Sociology, Psychology and History with a focus of interdisciplinary approach.

B.A. Psychology and Sociology (2008 onwards)

An undergraduate programme combining

- **Sociology**, enabling students to develop a social perspective on significant issues
- **Psychology**, equipping students to understand their own selves and others
- **History**, helping students to appreciate the past and equip oneself in nation building.

PG Diploma in Human Resource Development (1998 onwards)

- A one year career oriented Diploma programme providing students with skills in Public Relations and equipping them as good Human resource managers and Social Entrepreneurs.
  - Job opportunities – PRO, Programme Coordinators, HR managers, Welfare officers


- Specialization in
  - Health care management and
  - Behavioural Management of children and adolescents
  - Job opportunities – Schools and hospitals

Specializations in Medical and Psychiatric social work and Human Resource Management

- A course equipping young women to be socially conscious professional individuals committed to contribute their skills and energies to civil society towards the building of a just and equitable society.

- PG Diploma in Counselling (2011 onwards)

Post Graduate Diploma in Counseling and Psychotherapy

- To kindle within students their helping skills & equip students with the basic skills of counseling

- Both theoretical and practical inputs

- Emphasis on learning through doing

- Open for interested students in the Final year of under graduation and First year of Post graduation.
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

2009 – 2010

Department of Social Sciences, Lady Doak College, Madurai
Renison University College
Waterloo, Canada

2010 - 2011

Department of Social Sciences
Lady Doak College
Madurai
“Anugraha”
Tamil Nadu Capuchin
Institute for
Counselling, Psychotherapy & Research
Dindigul

2012 - 2013

Department of Social Sciences
Lady Doak College
Madurai
“Bethshan”
The Evangelical Baptist
Mission
Dindigul
To mark the beginning of a glorious journey of the department of social sciences, the department organized a thanksgiving service at the Wilcox chapel on 6th July, 2013 at 4:00p.m. The call for worship was taken from Leviticus 25:10-12 and the opening prayer by the college chaplain, Dr. Suka Joshua. The responsive reading was led by the Principal, Dr. Mercy Pushpalatha. The message was delivered by Mrs. Sylvia Jeyakumar, a distinguished alumna from 1988-91, who is currently an administrator at the Community Living Association, Brisbane, Australia. A meaningful litany of thanksgiving was led by the Head of the Department, Dr. Caroline Nesabai followed by the department song, which was written and set to music by one of our alumna, Joanna Priyanka of 2009-12 batch.

A special reading titled the Bridge builder was read by Dr. B. Nalini who is a professor emeritus at the Madurai Kamaraj University.

Oh God our help in ages past, Showers of blessing and Great is thy faithfulness were the three hymns sung during the service. The closing prayer and benediction was delivered by the Rev. George Michael followed by the vote of thanks by DR. M.K.Jeyalakshmi, UG Head of the department of Social Science. The service was attended by our former principal Dr. Prema Michael, our former head of the department Mrs. Nirmala Wycliffe, our present Principal and Secretary Dr. Mercy Pushpalatha, administrators of the college, board members, faculty members from other departments, alumnae and friends of the department.
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
1963-2013

GOLDEN JUBILEE ALUMNAE MEET
A jubilee is a time to celebrate. A Mega Alumnae meet was planned on 16th Jan 2013 at the Golden Jubilee Auditorium as a special occasion for meeting all alumnae who had graduated from the portals of the department of Social Sciences, Lady Doak College.

Invitations were sent to the alumnae from the database available and on the social media. The success of the meet was that around 85 members who spread through the span of fifty years were present and some of them came with their families. In the morning, we had a video conferencing with our alumnae from USA. It was wonderful to reconnect with former faculty who had taught in the department. A campus tour was organized in the morning and there were also games organized for children who had accompanied their mothers and all the alumnae informally interacted with each other before a sumptuous lunch.

The best part of the program was the presence of three of our former faculty. The former Principal, Ms. Shanthi Manuel and former heads of the department, Dr. Thinakaran and Mrs. Nirmala Wycliffe were the special invitees and a guruvandhanam program was organized to honour the legends on whose shoulders the department is resting. It was the highlight for the day.

The day started with a welcome dance choreographed by the current students of the department. A documentary was prepared on the journey of the department for the past 50 years. And all the alumnae who had gathered were very happy to see the growth and the development of their department. They also saw their own photos as students who had studied here several years before. Snapshots of the Thanksgiving service were also displayed. The gurus were honoured with a shawl by former alumnae who also spoke about their inspiring role models and the impact they had on their lives. The gurus later responded to the felicitation and offered their blessings for the department. A special song was sung by the students and the alumnae to honour the gurus. A panel discussion was organized on the topic “Influence of Social Sciences in every walk of life”. For this, our alumnae who are currently serving as teachers, housewives, activists, bankers, etc., shared their thoughts and the influence the department had made on their lives. Several alumnae also gave generous contributions towards the extension activities of the department. The programme ended with a high tea. Few stalls with eateries and artisan products were exhibited to add colours to the event. A souvenir was given for all the alumnae who attended the mega alumnae meet.
ACADEMIC DELIBERATIONS
GUEST LECTURE - Dr. TEPHILLA JEYARAJ, Ph.D

The Guest lecture commenced with a short introduction by Dr. Caroline Nesabai who welcomed the chief guest. The chief guest Dr. Tephilla Jeyaraj is an alumni of Social Science Department. She completed her post graduation from Mysore University and did her Ph.D in US, where she is currently working as a lecturer.

She started her lecture with a short introduction about Psychology in everyday life and how Psychology is related with other subjects like Economics, Anthropology etc. Then she spoke about the following similarities between animal and human behavior.

- Social facilitation is the tendency of people to perform better on simple tasks in the presence of other people, is the one which is observed in humans as well as monkeys.
- The act of repeating one’s behavior which is rewarding is seen in monkeys and humans.
- The act of trading is also seen in both monkeys and humans.
- Both don’t like picking up on option that is not awarding or involves risk.
- Rats have their own techniques and strategies to get what they want.
- Monkeys choose an option where the reward is guaranteed than an option without any reward.
- The act of grooming among monkeys shows that they are already friends or would like to become friends.
- Monkeys do fight with each other if a male monkey looses a fight and if he feels he cannot win, he will not stay longer and would go to another group.

There was also a session open for questions where she clarified the doubts of the students. The lecture concluded with a word of thanks by Dr. Synthia Mary Mathew.
INSPIRING PASSION IN YOU
Mr. KOWSHIK BHATTACHARJEE

The department of Social Sciences organized a session for outgoing students on ‘Inspiring the passion in you’. The Guest Speaker of this session was Mr. Kowshik Bhattacharjee, General Manager Service Excellence-Group, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited.

Session started with an anecdote of a carpenter. An elderly carpenter was ready to retire, and he told his boss of his plans to leave and live a more leisurely life with his wife. He would miss the pay cheque, but he needs to retire... The contractor was sorry to see such a good worker go, and he asked the carpenter to build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials. It was an unfortunate way to end a dedicated career. When the carpenter finished his work, the employer came to inspect the house. He handed the front door key to the carpenter. “This is your house,” he said. “It is my gift to you.” The carpenter was shocked! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently. So it is with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Each day we hammer a nail, place a board or erect a wall. Our attitudes and the choices we make today build our “house” for tomorrow…

Success stories of women entrepreneurs like Preetha Reddy, Managing Director of Apollo Hospitals, Ms. Chanda Kochhar, MD & CEO of ICICI Bank, Ms. Indra Nooyi, chairman and CFO of PepsiCo, Ms Naina Lal Kidwai, Group General Manager & Country Head of HSBC, India, Ms. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Biocon Limited, Ms. Neelam Dhawan, MD of HP- an iconic figure in Indian IT industry, Priya Paul Chairman of Apeejay Surrendra Park Hotels in India, Ekta Kapoor, JMD & Creative Director of Balaji Telefilms, Ritu Kumar from Indian fashion industry, Ms. Sudha Murthy, Chairperson of the Infosys Foundation and Ms. Leena Nair of Unilever with her professional role as Employee Relations Manager, Management Development Manager and Business Partner for the Home and Personal Care Business. It inspired students to create a vision of self.
The session also featured the attributes (like visionary leadership, customer driven excellence, organizational and personal learning, societal responsibility, agility, managing for innovation etc) of world class companies and associated individuals dream to such attributes. This was followed by explaining the Balance Score Card which is a management concept.

The session ended on seven building blocks which include inner strength, competence, likeability, courage, intelligence, leadership ability and integrity and creating a sense of need to develop such quality in self. It was followed by suggestions to prepare for a job interview, being well organized, preparing resume, updating ourselves with current affairs in business world and to build up a great career ahead.
EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
1963-2013
SALVARPATTI

In connection with the yearlong celebrations of golden jubilee of the department, we organized programs, both curricular and extracurricular. Extension activity is one of the pillars of higher education where knowledge is transferred from the classroom to the society at large. In this context, the Department of Social Sciences explored into areas that called for attention in Madurai.

In tune with the mission statement of the department and as part of extension and research, a village named Salvarpatti (25km from Lady Doak) was adopted envisaging to set up a model village with permission from the Collector.

Our undergraduate and post graduate students, well trained in research and extension work were involved in all the programs under the expert guidance of a selected team of faculty from the department. The department conducted a baseline survey of the village (for 150 households). The objective of the research study was to study the socio economic conditions of the people. Elaborate details regarding family, housing, educational status, religious and cultural beliefs, governance, status of health (including reproductive health) land ownership, general problems faced and awareness on government schemes on all the households were collected through a questionnaire. The data collected was used by the students for their undergraduate projects.

With seed money, from a contribution from the members of the First Church at Oberlin, Ohio, USA and from various alumnae, the department initiated the construction of toilets in the Government primary school for boys and girls. We then approached the government and they donated Rs. 60,000/- under the Self Supporting Scheme and the construction of toilets is now complete with provision of water facilities. We have also requested the local administrative body to use the money to do the flooring of the classrooms.

This year the department has planned to continue with its extension activities at Salvarpatti by empowering the youth of Salvarpatti to represent the problems and needs of the village relating to basic amenities to relevant Government officials and to ensure that the village of Salvarpatti has access to Government facilities, and to organize health camp for women in collaboration with FPAI/PHC. Children in the Government Primary school with Learning Difficulty and Learning Disability were identified and they were given intervention.
The department is proud to install a scholarship in 2013 by depositing a sum of Rupees one lakh generously contributed by our alumnae, named the Golden Jubilee Alumnae Scholarship. The interest from this amount is used for the term fees or other academic expenditure incurred by a student of the social sciences department, belonging to a lower socio-economic background. The need for such a scholarship was strongly felt in the recent past due to the increase in the enrolment of students from disadvantaged sections of the society as well as initiation of new programs under the self-financed stream.

The latest program initiated by the department, the Post Graduate Diploma in Counseling and Psychotherapy will now have a prize, the Golden Jubilee Prize, for students with academic merit and distinction in the diploma program. We appreciate and expresses our heartfelt thanks to our alumnae for joining hands with us in installing these scholarships and prizes to honor and motivate our students who excel in their field of study.
REMINISCENCES
Greetings to alumnae, students, faculty and friends of the Social Sciences Department of Lady Doak College,

I would like to thank Dr. Caroline Nesabai, Chair of the Social Sciences Department of Lady Doak College for inviting me to write to you at this very important time in the history of the department. I am honored and extremely delighted to bring greetings to my former students, colleagues and friends and of course, the budding students of this day. Social Sciences department… that quaint little building, that precious place… where the department was located, brings me warm memories of the very early years of my career… the place where I learned the craft of teaching. Words cannot express how much this esteemed College and the department means to me.

As you celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the department, I would like you to join me to get a glimpse of the next fifty years. Don’t you see what I see? I see the department bursting into new areas of knowledge in the humanities and social sciences. I see advanced programs being introduced and doctoral degrees being conferred. Alumnae from the department are occupying important roles in society and guiding the process of change…

I hope we will continue to be not just any department but a prestigious department which offers more than a diploma. A place of higher learning that prepares the next generation of leaders who will lead, irrespective of whether they are in the homes and local communities or out in the world transforming the world. Anyone can lead others from anywhere in any organization or social unit, including the family. Leadership is a choice you make, not a place you occupy. Anyone can choose to become a leader wherever he or she is. You can make a difference no matter where you are.
To the students, I would like to say that each one of you will make an impact in this world, but some of you will make a global impact. What matters is that we are willing to do what it takes to make a positive impact wherever we find ourselves in life---to add value in anyway, we can to others.

To my colleagues in the department, I wish you success in all your future endeavors. As we all know, teachers make a bigger impact on the future of the society than any other professionals. Let us lead our students by sowing the seeds of knowledge, truth and leadership.

And finally, to our friends of the department, I would like to thank you for your continual support of the social sciences department. Without you, dear friends, we would not have reached this important milestone and together, we hope to celebrate more jubilees.
PARVATHAVARTHINI
2009-2011

My memorable moments in Lady Doak College 1984 – 87 are the Golden Days of my life! As a student of Lady Doak College in the department of Social Sciences, I really lived every moment in this campus. Apart from learning subjects, the campus opened us a wide horizon of learning experiences. Co-curricular, extracurricular activities, inter departmental and inter collegiate events, OSS and exposure tours….the list goes endless. It was a joyful learning process! Personally, I became a socially concerned, more human person (What I believe I am today) after entering into this campus. The availability and accessibility of resources in the college campus, especially, for the hostel students like me, made us a feeling that this is our another Home.

I also played a role of a teacher in this campus in 1990-91 and in 2009-2011. The friendly, encouraging senior staff and the transparent administrative practices made me feel comfortable to work to my best. Teaching here in the campus is also a learning process! Every moment of teaching, I was made to feel like a student and it was really a challenging period for me to update myself academically in an organized manner.

I feel proud, happy and content today for being a Doakian and I continue to “CELEBRATE MY LIFE”
Joining Lady Doak College was my all time dream. And to this department was my passion. With aspirations of a teenage girl to start a family after under graduation I thought this social science programme is the apt one for me to have a family, good relationships and healthy children. But the course was a life changing one which created a quest for more knowledge in me.

The unstinted support of all our faculty in all aspects, and the classes be it anthropology, psychology or any other were the positive aspects of this department. Our faculty has been role models in all aspects and we learn a lot from them.

I was disappointed to find that there was no master programme in psychology in Madurai. So, I took up a Medical and Psychiatric social Work course pacifying myself that it is linked with Psychology in some way. Each day in my Post Graduation programme I was reminded of the department and my teachers who were responsible for the strong foundation I had in my subject which helped me to finish my PG course with flying colours. I started my career in LDC a little apprehensive as I was filling in a leave vacancy for one of our professors. Each day was a learning experience as a teacher.

When I was told be in charge of a diploma course, I had my reservations. But the confidence instilled in me by my colleagues, who were my former teachers, made me take up the challenge.

I learnt and I was moulded by each and every one I worked with, including my students. Leaving college after marriage was a heart wrenching experience. Seven years passed, then again I had a chance to be in Madurai. I approached the department with a guest lectureship in mind, but I was offered a dream which I have not dared to dream. God almighty, the college and the department gave me more than I had asked for; I got a full time teaching job. I enjoy and savour each day back.
PARAMESHWARI
2004-2006

Lady Doak! This college has changed my life. This is the place where I learned responsibility. This is the place I learnt what is teaching and how to use different teaching methodologies. I felt very happy and enjoyed the responsibilities given to me.

Lady Doak college is THE BEST place for both students and teachers. It is especially best place for the budding teachers. After working in Lady Doak, one will never get job satisfaction in any other college or University. I am telling this out of my experience. I think this is the only college where technology is best used. This is the only college having Human Resource Development section to equip the new teachers.

I am proud to be a Doakian. I MISS LADY DOAK COLLEGE. When I am writing these words, my eyes are filled with tears. These words are true from my heart.
LEKSHMI PRASAD
2004-2005

The privilege of being employed by the first Women’s College with a long trail of history was more than I could ask for. I was too thrilled to be part of an Institution that hailed women empowerment through action and not mere words. My acquaintance with work life began on a misty morning of December in the prestigious campus of Lady Doak with me knocking at the doors of Pandyan Hall as my accommodation was arranged there. The scene of me running around in my room to be ready so that I could report to duty on time still plays fresh in my mind. Like a baby learning to walk I too started learning the complex steps of teaching-learning process and that of professional life from my colleagues. They trained me to be organized and well informed. The best part of being in the Department of Social Sciences is that your discomfort and uneasiness are well read by your colleagues who help you overcome them with so much ease. I was amused by the ways through which my colleagues made me feel at home. For the first time in my life, it was in LDC that my effervescent smile was appreciated and encouraged. I can never forget how I enjoyed watching rain along with hostel mates from the balcony of Gnanthickam Hall. The green clean campus was definitely a magical land, all the more in summer. The effect of my life at Lady Doak College is still evident as I quote about the academic as well as the extracurricular practices at Lady Doak College every now and then at my present workplace. My stint with LDC, though lasted only for a few months as I went on to pursue my higher studies, is by all means a lovely episode in my career and personal life.
LOOKING BACK.......A GLIMPSE....

Seven years at the department has offered me growth in all possible directions. My life in the department has been a learning opportunity. I was a fresh graduate as I entered the department and now when I look back I realise there has been a lot of positive changes within me. The growth process wasn’t easy there were necessary pruning by my senior colleagues but all for the good!

What I appreciate the most about the department is the freedom it offers, freedom for the staff and the student to the right measure and that enables growth. The interest the department dedicates on the welfare of each student be it in terms of personal academic or emotional. The extra mile which my colleagues used to take for the welfare of the students has been an inspiration to the teacher within me.

The variety in our department and the unity within the variety is a highlight. A special word of appreciation to the head of the department for appreciating the uniqueness in each one of us and bringing the best in each of us, at the same time guiding us all towards accomplishing the mission and vision of the department.

Working in this department and by being a part of the social sciences team I have learnt some of life’s precious lessons. I learnt that life may take lot of unexpected turns and twists but we can face it with courage and confidence. In situations where we don’t agree or approve we need not lose our temper, yet we can still present our view calmly and firmly. Cheerfulness and enthusiasm not only energises us, but is contagious. Any work that we do, when we do it passionately, we excel and through compassion we do not lose anyone we only earn lives. I understood that delayed work is no work at all and that gentleness can make even the toughest minds to listen to you. As the psalmist says ...”if the Lord doesn’t build the house, the builders work in vein...” I thank God almighty for having given me an opportunity to be a part of this department!! And I wish the department all the very best. May the department excel in all its forth coming endeavours !!
Hope all is well. Great to touch base with you once again. I have been travelling a lot as part of my work and have been balancing tasks at the professional and personal front. In fact, I wanted to write a lot as you know I have so much of experiences to pour out regarding my stay at the Department. You also know I was the one who was like a bridge in the Department between the Seniors and the Juniors by means of age and experience. The most interesting fact is that I didn't fall in either of the group neither by age or experience, I was always midway. But then it was lovely that I could gel with both the seniors and the juniors. Still all of you are very green in my memory. Even if you had forgotten certain things that happened in the Department...good or bad and at any point of time want to recollect, you can always come back to me. I will be able to share each and every move. Birthdays are so important to me and so many of the things that happened in your lives!!!

In between the busy schedule, I thought I would scribble a few things that came to my mind. Hope it may be of use and add value to the Souvenir.
MY ANOTHER HOME

My heart is lingering with sweet memories as I think about our department. I am relished in sharing my cherishable treasures. I remember how timidly I entered our department as a faculty without any prior experience in the field of teaching. But I was welcomed warmly as a team member. I was given a laboratorial field and free hands on teaching. I learnt and unlearnt basics of teaching through my interaction with the students. I committed mistakes but was not condemned! Even though (unfortunately) it was a very short period of stay (2 years), I thoroughly enjoyed a flavored professional atmosphere. I would appreciate the prudence of the team leader in absorbing the emerging trends into the curriculum and the team’s positive acceptance to new ideas.

Constructive discussions on all matters, decentralized power, democratic system, and multifaceted potential faculty are the pillars of the department that enriched my learning. I feel proud to be a part of the team who helped the students, by constantly encouraging them wholeheartedly in their academics and even beyond the walls of the college. I witnessed many old students who came into the department for sharing their accomplishments. As the present milieu is becoming more and more complex for human existence many social reform are unavoidable. So, I appeal to my department to continue its sculpting process and wish the very best success on the same.

LONG LIVE MY AWESOME DEPARTMENT!!!
SUSAN
2012-2013

One year journey in the department of Social Sciences was exciting and challenging. When I think back I find a picture of a family in my mind. A family that stays together both in happiness and in sadness is the hidden secret of this department. In spite of the differences in our opinions at times we are united when any mission at hand has to be completed. The unique personalities of my colleagues made the department work more like a family, in all aspects be it organizing, planning and executing the agenda.

But above all, the prayers before starting any scheduled department meeting, is what has built this camaraderie in the department over the years.

“A family that prays together stays together”.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
1963-2013
REMINISCENCES FROM 
ALUMNAE 
(UNDERGRADUATE)
I am Mrs. Mala Nadarajan, a proud student of the 1986 graduating class from the Social Sciences Department. I would like to gently breeze through my days during 1983-1986. I completed my schooling at O.C.P.M in 1983 and jumped over the fence to join Lady Doak College. I went through the regular application process and I had no inhibitions or reservation about this campus from day one till date. When I selected Social Sciences major, I had no in depth exposure about any of the classes offered. The core classes offered a good introduction to an array of subjects. Also, the professors played a big role in gravitating our interests during these days.

After completing the core classes, I started the second semester in full swing. During those days, the department was close to Principal’s house, and we were pretty much ostracized from the rest of the college for a majority of the time during the day. That was when we discovered ourselves in multiple ways, interacted more with the seniors, juniors, and all the professors in unison. Some of the debates we had in class are registered in my mind even after 2 decades. One such debate happened in Ms.Manuel’s class: She wanted to know if we had read the advertisement banner put up by the State Bank of India that was placed high on the flyover in Madurai. Most of us had seen it and the caption was “Save for your son’s education and daughter’s marriage”. We took sides based on that caption and had a full fledged, organized debate. We all enjoyed the debate and learnt that we need to find a way to be assertive and one of the tools that is being conveniently snatched away from girls is education. This is just one of the many eye opening exposures that I had in the Department. Upon completing my B.A degree, I did M.A English at Lady Doak College and worked for a few months in the Social Sciences department. At present, I live in Maryland and work as a Test Development Specialist at American Institute of Research in Washington D.C. This field is entirely different from all the disciplines I studied at Lady Doak College. However, I thank all the professors for helping me develop the risk taking behavior. This quality is an asset that gives me all the confidence I could possibly want. When I failed in my endeavors while switching subjects I failed many times but I never gave up. Once you decide on something, you have to move on was a lesson Ms.Manuel taught us. This lesson is my best memory of Lady Doak College. I will never forget it.
I have such fond memories of my student days. I remember the exclusive 3 roomed block, which was then the Department, located between the library and the clinic. We had that area to ourselves much to the envy of our batch mates in other Departments!

The academic atmosphere was extremely stimulating, as the program was robust with assignments, projects, group work, etc; which did encourage lateral thinking. Interactive classroom sessions were very much encouraged and we enjoyed them! We had gifted teachers with a lot of passion and commitment and I have to thank them for having chosen to specialize in Psychiatric Social Work. They were teachers who were very generous and caring. We all remember them with great fondness and some of us continue to be in touch with them. It is a matter of joy to us when they rejoice in our personal and professional success and take pride in the same.

We were competitive without being “cut throat” and truly rejoiced in each other’s success. We also helped each other and learnt from one another along the way and so the journey was a pleasure and even today leaves us with pleasant memories. I must also remember our class mate Chethna, whose life was cut short. May her soul RIP.

Thanks to the Department for letting me relieve those nostalgic times of my student days!
KAVITA CHHEDA
1986 – 1989

I am elated to know that Social Sciences department of Lady Doak College is celebrating ‘Golden Jubilee’ this year and are bringing out a souvenir. I wish them success and I am equally delighted and proud to be an Alumna of this prestigious department.

“Greatness is established not only by ‘reaching’ the pinnacle but ‘Staying’ there with a step ahead and above”.

From a small 3-room building, aloof from the college campus, it has now grown in heaps and bounds. I am glad to know that many post-graduate courses have also begun.

I would consider myself really fortunate to be associated with this department, having the best blend of old and new lecturers in our times to guide us.

I take great pleasure and immense pride to convey my heart-felt wishes to all the teaching fraternity of the department and wish them success in the following years to come.
“Men will come and men will go, but I go on forever.” So says one of the famous poem, which talks about a brook. May be I should alter it slightly and put it as ‘Students may come and go, but I keep growing forever’ that for you, is our dear Social Science department, which is celebrating its golden jubilee this year, a rare feat indeed, and at this moment I feel proud to have gone through my three years, under the able guidance of the best teachers I could ever have! Thank you Social Sciences, I owe you a lot.

16th January 2013, the day we had the GOLDEN JUBILEE ALUMNAE MEET was indeed a memorable day for me and helped me relive my youthful days and I wanted to get back to college again. It was wonderful to meet, greet all my teachers, and a few friends, and I had the greatest honour any student could ask for, during Guru Vandhanam, honoring our dear Shanthi Manuel ma’am, who was my psychology teacher as well as the Principal of Lady Doak College, during my years at college.

It felt wonderful to be back at the department, after 20 years, and nothing has ever changed, except for the concrete structure perhaps, and a few grey hairs on our dear ma’ams!:) The lovely faces of our dear ma’ams greeted us with the same enthusiasm and warmth. It felt great to be back home, where I belong!

Home, and not department, I’m stressing that here because that was the feeling we all shared--our own cozy little corner, behind the library in Lady Doak College, next to the Principal’s house. With the 1st year class at Sr. James Doak hall, the staff room sandwiched between 2nd and 3rd years.

I was studying Social Sciences by mere intuition, as I had no idea what to study for the Under Graduation, but I have no regrets till date. Back in 1988, Social Sciences was a major not opted by many out of choice, but by either as a last option, or by those who had to get a degree to be eligible for marriage, but now it is a much sought after field by one and all, and I am so glad that so many more youngsters are opting to study humanities.
My learning at the department was truly eye opening and a journey for me. I studied with passion, and started realizing my potential and loved all the subjects offered then. The rare triple major course, where you get to study Sociology, Psychology and History as 3 majors itself was very new and different. The teachers were also very encouraging. We had a wonderful set of young vibrant lecturers. Lessons in history, were not boring as perceived but rather I got interested in history after college and the wonderful seminars that I prepared for, especially, the Vietnam war, in my second year, Ho-Chin min city still rings in my ears! When I did my project in psychology, it was first time for me to take surveys and interpret the data collected. It was a rich learning experience.

Every semester we had something to look forward to, be it academics or cultural. As a department we were unique and shared a great camaraderie. For instance, at the end of the semester we had pot luck lunch, where we would all get one particular dish cooked from our home and we would all sit around and share, eat and enjoy with our teachers and they would become one among us! Every new opportunity like taking seminars, representing the department, for inter department /inter collegiate programmes has been helpful.

The little lessons we learnt has helped us in life all the way. A proud homemaker for 20 years now, studying human relationships has definitely helped me handle life the way I should and the toughest job of all PARENTING (especially teenage kids).

We were made to realize that academics was to be prioritized before anything, by giving simple thought provoking examples. My message to today’s generation is that, the world is becoming a very selfish one, with more focus on materialism and it is corrupt right from the top to bottom. Due to human greed, the gap between the have and have-nots has really widened. If we make a difference even in one person’s life, or bring a smile to one needy person, then our life becomes more meaningful and worthwhile.

To be more compassionate and empathetic towards the old and the sick, and teach kids the values of life seems to be the need of the hour. Let us learn to apply whatever values our wonderful department has taught us throughout our college years.
SYLVIA JEYAKUMAR  
1988-1991

No one to Someone

I recollect a comment made by one of the senior faculty of the college (she was NOT one of the teachers who taught me though) during my third year of study - “You have really become very confident and bold now. I can still remember how shy and timid you were when you came in!” Yes, that is the transformation our department made in me and is still making in the lives of young women!

One of my most cherished periods at Lady Doak College is the first semester where we studied core subjects. It was a time of fun, light study and it helped me understand the different Arts subjects and get friends from the other departments including Sciences. I also fondly recollect the various field visits which have deeper imprints in my memory - visit to Anbu Illam (School for Special Children), the Government Observation Home for Women (gave me an insight into the lives of women caught up in commercial sex industry), Aavin etc. These visits enlightened me about the various cross-sections of our society and spurred me into the field of Social Work.

The staff of my department are the best people I have ever known. They have been pillars of support, encouraging me to recognize my talents, take bolder steps, recognize my weaknesses, expand and share my learning and to go beyond the expected line and to walk the extra mile. I cannot forget my professors who enquired if I required any help and support (including monetary help) when I went to attend the World Council of Churches General Assembly (as a steward) to Canberra, Australia while I was still a student. It will be too ungrateful of me if don’t acknowledge the roles played and the encouragement given by the faculty then. Amazing people to have around even in my early adult life!

On the lighter side, I recall the fun we had during our educational tour to Mysore, Bangalore and Coorg – staying up till late in the night, huddling together while sleeping, playing pranks on each other and enjoying the relaxed demeanour of the accompanying faculty! And how can I forget the day after our last day at college when we went out for a movie, lunch and had fun as a whole class!

Wishing the Department of Social Sciences God’s blessings in all its endeavors and in transforming lives of young women and creating a just society!
23 years has passed. It certainly doesn’t feel like that. Those three years (1990-1993) were the best years of my life, thanks to all my lecturers and batch mates.

Talking about the lecturers, they were THE BEST. They were awesome teachers and their lectures were truly interesting. I still have many of my lecture notes. Some are useful when I’m helping my children (especially my History, Anthropology, and Demography notes). The department was a wonderful location, surrounded by trees, very peaceful and quiet. Nothing could disturb the lectures, neither traffic nor people. The buildings must have changed a lot now but I still think of the department that was there 20 years back.

I loved all the lectures, assignments, projects (even the tests, semester examinations and the viva). I enjoyed searching for books and gathering information which was interesting and time-consuming.

My batch mates were very friendly and helpful. I still remember each and everyone’s name (in alphabetical order), though I’m not in touch with anyone.

My heartfelt thanks to the entire department of Social Sciences for making those three years truly memorable. If a genie offered me three wishes, my first wish would be to go back to my college days and to the department of social Sciences. Thank you.
M. ARUNODHAYA
1990-93

The word “Memories” with my Department is cherished with full of “positives” in my life time. I was raw clay when I stepped into my department. We were all blessed to have wonderful faculty members. All these dutiful teachers taught us not only the subjects alone, but also the values of life with their wonderful guidance. When we went on the educational tour to Bangalore & Mysore (1990-91) I had a fracture on my right leg during Transit. Immediately my teachers took me to a hospital in Bangalore in time for the apt treatment and brought me back home safely. This accident made me more close to my teachers. The next year we had a successful trip to Kerala and also the (OSS) on the spot study to Rock cut Temples and inscriptions to the places in and around Karaikudi & Pudukottai districts. These trips strengthened the bond between the students and the teachers.

The Inter Departmental, the Inter Collegiate programmes brought out our inherent, talents and provided a platform for us to excel. The special quality of our department was the student – teacher relationship which was like a family on the whole. I had a very good platform to grow as a self confident person. On being asked on numerous occasions as to which institution I studied, I feel proud to be known as a “Daokian” and Social Sciences alumni, where this raw clay had been moulded as beautiful pottery.

I thank my maker who has given me such a wonderful opportunity to be the student of the Department of Social Sciences and the period of (1990-93) was really the “Golden Period” of my life time.
Being a science student at higher secondary level I was interested in joining an undergraduate course in any science subject, but I was moved to a situation where I had only Social Sciences as an option. I joined the Department in 1992 only after my batch-mates finished their campus tour and orientation. During the initial days, I felt like a person lost in an unfamiliar place. In the first semester, we had ‘core’ classes where we were exposed to various arts and humanities, commerce and sciences.

Part III classes were started to us in the second semester where we had lessons on Sociology, Psychology and History. We developed the sense of ‘our’ Department, ‘our’ teachers and ‘our’ own friends only in the second semester. At present I am an academician practicing Sociology but in the beginning, sociology sounded Greek and Latin, as it was absolutely new.

In the third semester, orientation towards the subjects had changed. The logically presented syllabuses, its relevance, the way it was taught were some of the reasons for the change in the interest. During class hours, chances were provided for us to conduct seminars where we learn to present ourselves before the audience, with creativity and originality. Seminars, assignments and quizzes we had were thought provoking. Another important thing that needs special mention was having research activity in the UG curriculum. The research footing that I had helped me to develop myself as a researcher after completing the PG course. Our Participation in club and extra-curricular activities helped in holistic development.

To put in nutshell, I will say that the exposures and the experiences I had in the Department of Social Sciences were not only an unforgettable thing in my life but also foundation laid for my career. These qualities I acquired here helped me in grooming myself as an academician with knowledge and communicative skills. I am happy to state that my career’s base was designed and started from the department of Social Sciences. I take this opportunity to thank my teachers, department and Lady Doak College for everything they had done for me.
DEEPTHI
1992 - 1995

Everything is fresh in my mind, even my register number 92SOC118! I wish life could just rewind and I become a college student once again – chatting and laughing, cultural rehearsals, project reviews, last minute learning etc.

It was in college that I learnt to be responsible. I learnt the values of many things which I thought were insignificant and I have not forgotten it. Thanks to all the wonderful professors who mentored me. I had to write this to let you know that what you have taught us has gone a long way, beyond the college gates. Maybe I didn’t value them then, but with experiences that life has taught so far, I most certainly do now. Thank you for everything you have taught us.

Today, life is full of commitments and too many worries, but those cherished moments will live forever in my memories.
The college days were the most memorable part of my life. I belong to the 1992-95 batch. This period is a major transition period in my life. Till my school days I was a docile and passive person. But once I entered Lady Doak College and especially the department of Social Sciences a major change happened within me. I became an active and lively person. Even my family members were astonished by my change. The full credit goes to the department, faculty members and my friends. We had several lively interactions in class room which are still fresh in my mind. Either principles of Sociology or social problems or population studies or several brain storming sessions in Psychology classes and heated arguments on politics and current affairs in History classes. Each and every class is thought provoking and self introspective. Not only academically the Department made us to take part actively and voluntarily in extracurricular activities. We had a nice memorable trip to Bangalore, Mysore, Belur and Halebid. We were known as Social Sciences butterflies in the campus because we were full of energy and full of life. We had maximum enjoyment but within the limitation. The privilege of being a Doakian was well known when I went to P.G. course in another institution where I got much regard and reputation.

After 18 years I was given an opportunity to come back to my Department and had cherished memories once again. Thanks to all my staff members. Still now, I have much regard and respect to my College, Department and my teachers. It’s a lifelong process and will continue till end.
MITAL LALAN
1993-1996

It was destiny that I took up BA Sociology. Not having anyone to guide me career-wise, I decided to follow the crowd, so whatever my cousin and close friends chose, I chose too.

And I am glad I did! It taught me to understand and deal with humans, relations, society in a better way. It taught me to empathize and understand people. The Psychology classes interested me the most. Very sincerely, all credit goes to each and every teacher who taught us these subjects. To add it up, we had interesting activities, assignments and projects to do.

College days are supposed to be the most memorable & fun filled years of one's life. We enjoyed to the fullest extent and in my eyes, Sociology is the most interesting major one could choose, a very useful field that comes handy in day to day life.
MUHIL A
1997 - 2000

I entered Social Sciences department 15 years back (1997-2000). The department was a world of our own and we revolved around it. The memories of my UG in participating and organizing inter college competition, group studies under the tree shades, surprise birthday parties, friends treat on spinster's party, it goes on and on and every memory is still in my mind etched....

All these 15 years, my department has been my strong pillar and it is because of them I am back to my own department to fulfill my long last passion of doing my Masters degree.

My department is a family to me. It supported, encouraged and improved my life style. I love my department for being what I am today
One of the turning points in my life was selecting B.A Social Sciences in Lady Doak College in Madurai.

On the first day of my college, we were given a warm welcome by our department staff and the seniors. Being a student from abroad it made me feel at home. I really liked the interactive session, which was organized by our SOC staff and students. Since I came from Tamil medium, at the initial stages of lectures I couldn’t follow anything and I used to cry at nights in the hostel. Did I make a mistake by coming to India? I also had homesickness leaving my parents and siblings in Sri Lanka. However, my lecturers gave me enough confidence and strength that I can do better and not to worry. They took special care for the students who found difficulty to cope up with the subjects. Of course I have to thank all my Batch mates who helped a lot by teaching and explaining the subjects very well.

I really liked the teaching methods that our lecturers followed. During my course, I had many problems in my life and all those bad times my-lecturers were with me and supported me. They also gave enough opportunity to take up leadership in my class. I was very happy when they selected me as peer counselor. At that point I realized my capacity to help others using some of the skills that I imbibe. After my graduation I worked in Sri Lanka in different development, research, non-governmental organisations and international non-government organisations. The department has moulded me to take up all the challenges and face the problems with courage and confidence. Today I am heading an International Non Governmental Organisation.

When I heard that our department is going to celebrate 50 years and I was also part of those 50 years I am really proud of myself. I wish I could attend the celebrations on the 16 January. I wish all the very best of success for the event and for the future. A Special thanks to all my wonderful lecturers, who were part of my progress up to date.
I am glad that I am part of the golden jubilee celebrations of the Department of Social Sciences. When I joined Lady Doak College in the year 1997, it was the Golden Jubilee Year of the college.

1997-2000 was the Golden era in my life. Even today, when I am upset, the memories of my college days always bring a smile to my face.

We were lucky to have inspiring teachers. I still think of them fondly and they were amazing to me. In the Social Sciences department, learning was always fun. We usually had group discussions about topics relevant to our lives and society. I had a wonderful opportunity to come out with new ideas, beliefs, rational thoughts etc. Our teachers were the best role models. They never commanded us, but instead, they guided and supported all the way. During my final year, in the college my department teachers gave me a book mark saying “God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can and wisdom to know the difference. It was such a wonderful quote, which helped me to tackle many problems in my life smoothly and peacefully.

I have learned much of life’s philosophy from their thoughtfulness and generosity. I thank you all sincerely. Life is a journey and your words have been a guiding light throughout. “To teach is to touch lives forever”.

Thank you for everything teachers.
I have always held my head high as a student of Social Sciences department. It’s been fifty years, since the inception of this department and there are so many students who have been benefitted by it. What they learnt from here surely would have made a difference in their life.

I did my BA in Social sciences (2000-2003) and my MA in Applied Social Sciences (2004-2006) in this department. I entered the department as a typical teenager with no big plans about my future. I went through a series of emotional problems during my college life. Every difficulty I faced helped me to rethink about the problem. They made me think whether the cause was inside me or outside of me. I realized that I had to understand myself to lead a better life; I felt the need to change myself to live a more different life than the one I was living. In my department help always found me when I needed it the most.

My mentors helped me to understand that better life begins with unlearning the wrong technique. I had to unlearn how I perceived, listened, and how I reacted. I was educated to be objective in my perception, to listen and understand without bias, to accept people for what they are, most importantly to stay detached while being attached.

At present I do not have a job, nor do I earn money, but professionally help people around me to realize that life is more than what they think it is and there is always a better way to live it. My life has become meaningful as I believe that someone is benefitted by my existence.

I was sent out of the department with the light which eventually led me to the rightful path. We learnt this song in our final year of under graduation and I’ll take these lines with me forever.

\[
\text{This little light of mine I am gonna let it shine,}
\]
\[
\text{Hide it under a bushel oh no! I’m gonna let it shine,}
\]
\[
\text{Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!}
\]
HEMALATHA BHAT
2002-2005

It gives me immense pleasure to recollect my days at Lady Doak College, and I thank my teachers in the department of Social Sciences for giving me an opportunity to pen down my memories. I studied B.A Social Sciences from 2002-2005. My first hour at Lady Doak College was in the chapel, when the Principal of the college prayed for all the new comers. My first learning from her was clear and profound. She said that all of us have a purpose and with God’s Mercy and Will, each one shall realise it. The lush green campus with some of the trees older than the college itself, vibrated with classes in the morning, and buzzed with extracurricular activities in the evening.

The department of Social Sciences in particular was my universe. The teachers of my department not only taught me the subject, but helped me to discover my own passions and pursue it with steadfast determination. I developed a special taste for history especially Social history, because of my professor, who made me realise that history was not just a subject of only events, years and people, but the transformation of societies and also individuals in the time line. I am eternally indebted to her for giving me the strong foundation in history, and it is her training that has driven me to pursue research.

Our professors taught not just the subjects, but also shared with us their various travel experiences, and their involvement in works of charity and their life experiences were lessons of inspiration to us.

My classmates and friends who came from different socio-cultural background always reinforced the feeling of togetherness, joys of sharing and humility.

The college as a whole and the teachers in the department in particular, shaped my moral and intellectual universe which is positioned by books. I owe my gratitude to all the teachers of the Lady Doak College and whatever little I am, it is because of their generous love and genuine teaching.
GAYATHRI RAMAMOORTHY
2002 - 2005

It is a beautiful experience to recollect all the memories which I had at the Social Sciences Department, Lady Doak College. I have immense pleasure to turn the pages of the days that I had spent from 2002 -2005. The very atmosphere of the department itself, gave a feeling that I was one with nature. Most of the time I’ve enjoyed reading books early in the morning, sitting under the trees where the birds were humming and the library nearby had given me a lot of pleasant experiences. The ambience gave me the positivity, the Gurus taught me how to live life and view life with a positive perception. The teachers mentored us, with their unique teaching and mentoring skills, that each one of us turned out to be unique and honed the best of our skills while we were here.

I have learnt how to boost up my self-esteem as well as how to perceive people in a dignified way. And I have learnt how to have a beautiful relationship between the student and the Guru. I am very sure that every teacher in the department of Social Sciences is a source of inspiration to every student! Last but not the least, companions of my batch brought a beautiful feeling of oneness and encouraged me personally in so many ways to exhibit my hidden talents. I’m happy to express my gratitude to everyone, for what I am now is because of the seed which had been ploughed in me some years back by the hearts which carved me.
NIRANJANA
2002 – 2005

Memories remind us that nothing lasts forever…! ! !

College days are special for everyone and they gift most of us with some unforgettable carefree bunch of memories to cherish forever and so were mine..!

Remembering my classmates, after few years,
My eyes were filled with tears;
Everyone is busy a lot,
No one escaped destiny’s Plot!

Nicknames to last bench fun,
Those laughter with anxiety and excitement side by side;
Fresher’s welcome to senior’s farewell,
Life was fun but not a cake walk…!

Feeling sleepy inside the class,
Getting punishment for talking with friends;
Every time doing new nonsense

Those deep discussions during lectures,
Xeroxing and collecting notes before exams,
Making fun and doing mimicry of professors,
Getting message from secret admirers,
Pleasure trips under the banner of “On the Spot Study”,
Making friendship and bunking class,
Exam result and punishments for late submission,
Those feel free discussion and fear of getting caught...
Everything is fresh in mind,
Wish life could just rewind;
Let’s laugh, play and rejoice,
Once again become college guys..!
Chatting and laughing. We all were in elation,
Till the painful moment of separation;
When it was time to part,
We returned with a heavy heart..!

Today life is full of commitments,
And too many worries;
But those cherished moments,
Still live fresh in our memories..! *Dear SOC… O dear Social Sciences*
Being proud alumna of Social Sciences Department, I would like to share my amazing experiences. The course is designed in such a way that even ordinary person can do extraordinary things in their lives. And it is all because of the wonderful lectures who go the extra mile in molding the students. Today life is full of commitments, 

I was taught world politics as well as not to create politics among friends. Though child psychology, I learnt how to bring up my kids better and through sociology, I learnt how to be the most accepted person in the society.

Every time I meet a person who stands out in a crowd, I can for sure say that she is an alumna of Department of Social Sciences, Lady Doak College, Madurai
Awesomeness! That’s what the department means for me …..

Yes, those were the wonderful days of my life. It’s been 8 years since I left the department. Yet the memories are still fresh in my mind. It is amazing how quickly time passes and how the things that seemed like they happened only yesterday are now etched in memories. This department helped me discover myself. What I am today I owe it to the department and the wonderful professors. This department has made me into a prudent and confident individual and has made me realize the purpose of life. I loved what I gained from it.

It is imperative to say that for any student their college life is shaping the future and for me it is 100% true. It was a wonderful experience with the lovely professors, the long lasting friendships, the beautiful campus, the long hours of after college chatting with friends, the funniest jokes, the canteen food (1 dosa shared by nearly 10), the interesting classes, the OSS, the Sophis club, the extra-curricular activities and the NCC camps, and not to forget the internal tests, and exams.

I would love to remember every single moment spent there.
Our department: I don’t mean the room in Newton block second floor or the room near the Principal’s home. I mean all the faculty who were/are working every day and night to bring lights in the life of each and every student. Our department is a home for all who come.

My experience: As a student, with all my innocence and ignorance I came to the college and got admitted in B.A., Social Sciences. My inferiority and insecurity were destroyed completely by the constant support of my teachers. Slowly, I learnt to develop my self-identity and self-esteem. The teachers nurtured me to excel in my capabilities and motivated me. They made me travel the most crucial paths of life with their lights of elegance and I am always indebted to them.
MARY INFANTA
2007-2010

அது வரும் நாளில்...!!!
அதுவிலக் பட ரூரலாமைப் பறவை அதிகாரிகள் குழந்தைகள் நிகழ்வு குழந்தைகள் படங்களை நீண்டு வெளிப்படுத்துகிறது ஆகும்

அப்புறங்களில், தன் வளிமாற்றம் கல்விகள் நல்ல அதிகாரிமுறையின் நூற்றாண்டு கிராட்சிகள் குழந்தைகள் குழந்தைகள் குழந்தைகள் குழந்தைகள் குழந்தைகள் நூற்றாண்டு கிராட்சிகள் மட்டும்

மாணவர்கள் மன்னர்கள் கல்விகள் குழந்தைகள் படங்களைப் படங்களை அதிகாரிமுறையின் நல்ல குழந்தைகள். Senior Vs Junior நல்ல படங்களைப் படங்களை, அதிகாரிமுறையின் முயற்சியாளர்களின்

தேர்வு, தேர்வு, தேர்வு, 23 தேர்வு, 23 தேர்வு, தேர்வு படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப் படங்களை, படங்களைப்

மாணவர்கள் கல்விகள் நல்ல படங்களை அதிகாரிமுறையின் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தைகள் நல்ல குழந்தை

தேர்வு நல்ல படங்களைப் படங்களை, தேர்வு நல்ல படங்களைப் படங்களை, தேர்வு நல்ல படங்களைப்

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
1963-2013

வாழ்க்கையில் ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ச் அளிப்பு: பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் நிறுவன நாளை வரும் நூறாண்டு அமைப்பு நிலவியுள்ளது.

Chapel, Friends, Internals, Electives, Assignments, Library, Tour, Camps, Farewell, Experiment, Auditorium, Common Lunch, Stone bench, Ice cream, Canteen and lunch Pavilion போன்ற பகுதிகளும் காலத்துக்கு காலம் போராடியுள்ளனவை உள்ளன என்று ஒன்றித்தான் !!!

ஏற்றாழக்கை கணவு அனுப்பும் முதலில் அது போராட்டம் உள்ளும் அழகமான முக்கியமான விளக்கம் என்று ஒன்றியுடன்!!!

பூச்சியப் பொருளின் கட்டுப்பாடு விளக்கும் முதல் விளக்கம் என்று; குற்றுக் காலத்தில் கட்டுப்பாடுகள் மூலம் அனுப்பும் குற்றுக் காலம் போராட்டம் மூலமான முக்கியத்துவம் விளக்கம் ஒன்றித்தான் ???!!
RAMYA
2009-2012

“Whatever we think about and thank about, we bring about.” - Rhonda Byrne

Happy Golden Jubilee to my Social Sciences Department.

It’s great to be a part of my department as an alumna now. My department might have been the smallest, yet it was the coolest department for me. I was there from 2009 -2012 for my undergraduate programme. Those 3 years were really meaningful to me in many ways. I had a holistic experience. I acquired knowledge, discovered leadership skills in me and established relationships with my peers.

I had the great privilege of representing Social Sciences department in the College Union as the President for the term 2011-2012. The strong support rendered by my department faculty guided me to carry out my duties in the Union and cope with my academics efficiently.

I thank God for giving me the opportunities in my college years to realize my potentials and all my lecturers who supported me morally and my peers who have been there for me at all times.

A small thought for all,

“Remember Happiness doesn’t depend upon WHO YOU ARE or WHAT YOU HAVE,

It depends solely upon “WHAT YOU THINK”

Hence what we think makes a big difference in our lives.
P. NITHYADEVI
2009-2012

The hairpin bend! ......
The path of life seemed to be rugged,  
And often all the elders bugged,  
I did nothing other than a shrug.

There were times I went lunatic,  
And everything appeared to be uncanny,  
And all I did by then was “rove”

But this is when a hairpin bend  
neared me…..not to shove me to death  
Rather to fill my soul with true spirit of life.

“Hairpin bend? --“The department of Social Sciences”
I would not call it as an institution,  
Rather a place for the youth’s reformation,  
For this is where it took place, my transformation

I salute this department  
The people who make the department  
“The epitomes of love, inspiration, courage”  
I wish many more transformations and reformations…
JAMEENA S
2009-2012

Foot Prints

There is a famous quote “LIFE IS NOT ABOUT FINDING YOURSELF, LIFE IS ABOUT CREATING YOURSELF”. This quote inspired me a lot on many occasions when I felt low in my aspirations.

Like every other student I entered into Lady Doak College with plain thoughts about college life. When I set my foot in the department of Social Sciences I never had any expectations, any aspirations, nor any goals to be. Today I feel as an empowered woman, because of the experiences that I gained in this department.

I don’t know whether students consider their undergraduate life as one of the best part in their memories...But I do! . The numerous events that I experienced as an undergraduate hostelite, is still the best part of my life. At the Social Sciences department in particular, the hands of professors guided me towards the right path and helped me to identify my destiny. Though academically good, I had various setbacks, that reduced my self esteem, but with the right counselling from my professor at the department, my life changed and my attitude too. The words of my professor is still green in my memory “Jameena you should not expect that life should be always smooth, life is full of ups and downs and you should not hold on because of the temporary setbacks”. This gave me strength to overcome my weaknesses and move ahead positively taking things in stride.

It was destiny that brought me to the Social Science department, inspite of being chosen in another stream in the college. I have no regrets absolutely, for it was here that I learnt to become empowered, to bring out the best I can, exploring my dreams and aspirations and honing my skills.

“Life is an opportunity, and there is no greater wealth than life if each day is filled with beauty and happiness”.

Thanks to my UG years, I experience this happiness profoundly.
A. JEBA
2009-2012

We are all, as human beings, a product of our personal experiences. The people we meet, the places we visit and be a part of, have a tremendous influence on whom we turn out to be. As for me, the place which made me bloom into a beautiful woman was the department of Social Sciences, Lady Doak College. I thank God each day for having gotten the chance to be a part of such a wonderful world. Being a timid, withdrawn person, life seemed to be a hideous giant which I was not ready to face before my life at Lady Doak College. I had my own worries, doubts and fears about life. I was not able to see the great potential which was hidden in me (which is hidden in each one of us). I was not ready to step out of the cocoon I had around myself. But things changed effortlessly in me as I went to the department day after day for three years. The warm, cordial atmosphere in the department made life seem grand. The gentle nudge given by the professors during times of weakness and doubts gave me a glimpse of who I was and the potential within me. The efforts taken by the professors to get to know each of the young buds (students) made it all the more easy for me to step out. The entire atmosphere was filled with such encouragement and enthusiasm that it was hard for me to be the same old me. Things started changing in me that my entire outlook changed. The department of Social Sciences was a place of birth for me.
This is a privilege for me to write my days in the department. It is a chance for me to remember the wonderful days which helped me to evolve into the person I am and attain emotional maturity. The department has more than 200 students. Still the teachers know what each and every student is capable of and what they need. They can identify even if one of them faces problem. It is an extended family according to me. Whenever I faced a low point in my life the department supported me and stood beside me never leaving my hand even once. It is after I came out of the Department I really miss the days I spent there most. Still I m always welcome there (I hope) since it’s my Family. The department has fully prepared me to face whatever I come across in life. It had helped me to seek a reason behind everything. Above all it helped to understand who I really am. I really am happy about this opportunity because I never really had the opportunity to thank them in my life. I am always proud to be a student of Social Sciences Department
One unique unforgettable experience I had in my life which helped me grow as a human being to a great extent was the experience in the Department of Social Sciences. I should say that all credit goes to the teachers of the department who have raised the bars very high that no other place is even close to giving us the experience I had in Social Sciences Department at Lady Doak College.

Today I am aware of what I am doing and am able to analyse things and also accept me for what I am. My undergraduate learning experience was truly holistic. I never knew that accepting oneself and their past as it is could strengthen a person so much. I learnt that acceptance is a great tool to solve many unsolved issues. I was inspired by our department teachers in this aspect a lot because anytime I walked to them I was never judged but only accepted. This also helped me to look forward rather than looking back.

Few things that have formed a part of my long term memory include the potluck lunch with the dress codes, the surprise Teacher’s day celebration for the department teachers where we got to see how much fun teachers could have if given the chance and the throw ball match highlighting the sportive spirit of our department.

There are some experiences which can never be explained in words just like me smiling and feeling so happy while writing this and beneath that comes many cherishable memories with the department as a whole.
REMINISCENCES
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA PROGRAM
STUDENTS
SHALINI RAJASEKARAN*
2003 - 2004

Social Sciences department is a class of its own. The first thing that strikes me is the faculty of the department. The lecturers do not have a notion that they are teaching people, instead they are ready to make the students learn from their learning. There is a lot of difference in teaching and making students learn. None can match their art of talking to students.

The courses offered are good too. They emphasise on self thinking, self planning, self reference and making students do things so that they will never be forgotten. It is all done through fun based activities more than classroom teaching. The guidance, empathy and willingness of the faculty to help students whenever required make the department a special one. My faculty helped me discover my potential and moulded me into the person I am today.

My interest in Psychology and Counselling and working with children were cultivated in the department.

Thanks a lot dear teachers for instilling in me the confidence to work on my own and for creating an environment of success. I am sure a lot of other students are becoming better individuals because of you. Hats off to you!

Loving wishes for a bright and fruitful growth.

* We regret to note that Ms. Shalini Rajashekaran passed away on 29th July 2013. May her soul rest in peace. The department remembers the entire family in prayer.
JANSI RANI. C  
BA SOCIAL SCIENCES 2000-2003  
PGDPR & PM 2003-2004

My experience at the department of Social Sciences has been memorable. My initial recollection is from the first day at the department after the orientation programme with my sister and mom, which started with the self introduction. I always had friends in my class to tell me what happened in the class and what units were covered for the test and the assignments which I needed to submit in the department. Even my teachers were so polite and always told me to come to the department and clear any doubts whenever I was absent from class due to the competitions or matches. In my three years of the study my name was always printed in the college magazine, which made me proud to represent the department. I went through both happy and sad situations during my study but my teachers and friends taught me how to manage life positively irrespective of the situation. My teachers have always been supportive to me. Recollecting the memories of the department reminds me of my dad who is no more with us. The education and knowledge the department gave me and my dad’s way of bringing me up has made me finish my degree and face the world positively.

PGDPM&PR course gave me more exposure to the real society with two types of internships. Report writing was really very difficult and very challenging since I had to recollect and link all the work experience with the theory learnt in the classroom and it was during the Christmas holidays. One more interesting activity we had in this course was paper presentation at the multimedia lab. The experience of presenting the paper on the stage in front of the class was more challenging and took away the stage fear which I had before. I had often been on stage in my school days for sports but not for academics, whereas this was the first time for the academics. I prepared a PowerPoint presentation on the most popular monuments in India which gave me more confidence to explain things clearly to others. I became a part of the administrative staff in Lady Doak College, were I worked in an office and I had to deal more with the outside organizations which improved my public relations. To end, I thank all my friends and teachers for giving me such a nice opportunity to recollect my memories and the wonderful and nice moments I had in my life which I will cherish always.
SELVA LEELA

2004-2005

I have completed the course on 2004 – 2005, we were a group of eleven students. We had a wholesome learning viz., classrooms, seminars, industrial visits and much more.

Project work helped us to work independently. Assignment and case study discussions helped us to develop our analytical skills, and our faculty were always ready to assist us when we needed their guidance.

The syllabii was vast and helped us hone our skills in many facets. I am proud to say that I am a Doakian and where ever we go our network follows!
DHANALAKSHMI
2005 - 2006

I consider myself lucky to be a part of Post Graduate Diploma in Public Relations and Human Resource Management course in Social Sciences department because; the department has totally changed my outlook. It gave me an opportunity to go to different institutions and to meet people of different cadre. I enjoyed the ultimate liberation given to me in the campus. The department has played a significant role in moulding me into a matured woman.
I still vividly remember my first day in LADY DOAK COLLEGE. I was so excited in meeting new people. But I must also admit I had been very apprehensive about how my journey will be there, since this was the first time that I was far away from my family.

It was a bit difficult at first to be with people I never knew, eventually, everything went smoothly. I met wonderful teachers in the department who had been instrumental in shaping up my career and paved the way to achieve my desired position in the professional life which I am holding now. I am highly indebted to all my teachers, who have been extremely supportive and cooperative. I would like to thank each one of them for their extensive support.

This course imparted knowledge and exposure which was at par with the Master’s programme. The curriculum itself had been designed in such a way that one would get an apt industry exposure along with the classroom teaching. Perhaps one of the best ways to get along with the curriculum and also to get the grip over the subject is to get involved in all the extracurricular activities. It, in turn builds up self confidence. There was no dearth of these opportunities in Social Sciences department. By getting involved in programs, student groups, committees or leadership roles on campus it did open up the numerous doors of opportunity for me. And I could put the lessons learnt in classroom into practical use.

When I try to sum up my feelings on the days spent at LADY DOAK COLLEGE, within a flash all the college days, the annual days, those awards, study tour everything came alive in front of my eyes taking me back to those nostalgic days of college. I had not been able to visit the college since the day I had left after exam, but still keep up the wish and the desire that I will once again visit LADY DOAK COLLEGE!!!
SEEMA
2005-2006

Congratulations to the department on the celebration of golden jubilee... Pursuing a different course in the same college was exciting, with many questions in mind and for sure it was definitely worth it.

We had a great team of faculty guiding us and were very approachable. We could voice our views, problems, which were heard and considered. Along with regular college, the special inclusion of hands on training on organizations, conferences, study tours were an added attraction which in turn helped us in our subject with practical knowledge in HR department. This feature was specially guided for each student personally by faculty and in turn improved us as a trainee.

So all in all, it was a great packaged course handled amazingly by our faculty. I feel proud to be a Post Graduate Diploma in Public Relations and Human Resource Management student at the Social Sciences department in Lady Doak College.
Lady Doak College, certainly is the best part of my life. I explored my abilities, strengths and earned some precious relationships. Madurai was known to me as a visiting place for Meenakshi Amman Temple till I reached the James Doak Hostel as a student of the Social Sciences department. New people all around but the affection they bestowed on me, erased all the speculations I had.

From the very first day to the day I left Madurai, I can certainly count each second equally special. Our teachers, made us (me and MonalishaMohanty) so comfortable in the class, as we were the only people in the campus representing Odisha. The faculty in the department, were extremely helpful, affectionate, making sure we felt at home. Be it from answering our queries, or to counsel us they were always willing to help and I thank all of them for such beautiful memories to cherish throughout my life. The way they have encouraged us for each programme, presentations and at the time of exams is incredible! They have enriched us with their vision and experience.

Lady Doak College is a place to feel our self and feel proud of being a woman. I am now a Mascot of Madurai. The place with wonderful people, my college, and my teachers and of course my lovely friends. Hope with the changing world, I see Lady Doak College growing everyday and producing enriched, empowered women who are ready to take any challenge.

Today I am a successful professional and I thank the department of Social Sciences for that.
A year is all you have, take your pick of the degree to pass your time with, while we find a suitable groom to pack you off with; were what my parents told me when I entered the college. I picked up PG DPR & HRM, as it seemed very "user friendly" to me. What was supposed to be a finishing school of sorts was a professional experience for me. The department is meticulous and insisted on quality education. The course material was at par with MBA standard.

The internship program was especially very helpful. I wouldn't call myself an orator, not the least, but the department made me feel so comfortable with public speaking by way of project report presentation. I walked in as a timid person and walked out as a confident person. The department has instilled in us a passion for learning, punctuality and professionalism. Thank you Social Sciences department for molding me to what I am today. I am forever grateful to you my alma mater.
SUDIPTA CHAKRABARTY  
2008 – 2009

A BEAUTIFUL TURNING POINT OF LIFE

While my parents were busy looking for a suitable groom for their only daughter, disinterested in the topic of marriage I was looking for some more career options. After a day long browsing in the net, I got to know about a diploma course in “Public Relation & Human Resource Management”. A perfect combination, which would boost up my career. I applied and moved to Madurai to pursue this course. It was a big decision against my parent’s wishes, and a big challenge for me to shape up my life. Thousand kilometres away from my parents and relatives, I left for Madurai, with hope and confidence to prove myself. Life was not at all easy in my earlier days in Madurai. Everything was new around me - the language, the food, the college, the people and my friends. The need of the hour was to make myself comfortable in that new environment, thanks to my adaptable nature, I managed.

Lady Doak College a milestone in my life, is a turning point. This college has not only given me a degree but has given me the confidence to live a dignified life. The moment I entered LADY DOAK COLLEGE, I was pleased with the environment of the College, the facilities, the ambience and the holistic approach of the faculty. The best part was I learnt Tamil to make myself more comfortable with the people of Tamil Nadu and thanks to my friends for this. My heartfelt thanks to the faculty of my department. I had a great time with all of them, lucky to have them as my mentor. For me they were not just my teachers but my counselors, guide and best critics. They all had made my stay in Madurai more comfortable during my toughest days. The book mark signed by all of them says “Dear Sudipta, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” And I have started realising my dreams, which started with the “ELTON MAYO AWARD”. I am very thankful to all the teaching and non teaching staff of my college for having made me a complete and competent person in life.

LADY DOAK COLLEGE is a perfect place for the overall development of a person. I love the culture and I am proud to be a “Doakian”.

Romba Nandri.... to LADY DOAK COLLEGE AND MY FRIENDS for supporting me.
V. DHIVYA
2008-09

I am very proud to be an alumna of the department, though a student only for a year. The department is close to my heart because of the faculty. The very reason that the department has reached this milestone stands to prove that there is more than academics imparted here.

The syllabi later helped me in my post graduation studies (MBA) as well, and I always had unstinted support from all the dear teachers of the department.

They still welcome us with the same warmth and enthusiasm. My best wishes for the Golden Jubilee celebration and I pray to God almighty to take our department for a successful diamond, platinum jubilee as well!

Social Sciences department always ROCKS.
NEHA PANDEY
2009-2010

When I think of the days I spent at Lady Doak college and being more specific with my dearest Social Sciences department, I always wished I had a time machine to get back to those days!! The days which I would always cherish forever. It was the time of my life where I was actually made to realize the potential within me. I realized the essence of education just not being learning but an experience. The teachers of the department make it just not a department imparting knowledge but a place where one gains wisdom.

I still remember the first day I stepped into the department being a science graduate, who tried for medicine and could not make it twice, lost all hopes of moving ahead strong in a career, when future looked so gloomy with no plans. It was my teachers, who made me strong and realize that I could do beyond what I thought I was capable of doing. Today I find myself completely transformed from a reserved, closed and unplanned individual to a motivated, focused and an empowered woman.

I owe a big thank you to my Teachers, who were just not my teachers, but my Beacon light for life and have transformed me to what I am today…."
I feel nostalgic when I sit to write about the gifts, the department of Social Sciences has given me.

Aspiring to continue my career as a dance teacher, joining PGDHRD was the right choice for me as I wanted to keep myself engaged. It has developed my basic skills of understanding another human being, communication, punctuality, accountability and to represent me as a professional. Various activities such as short movie making, event management, counseling, leadership activities and fun at work had helped every student to learn the intricacies and depth of the subjects. I am overwhelmed to express my gratitude to all the teachers who have played very important role in moulding my career.

Thanks would definitely be a very diminutive word as I believe thanking God is not under the human purview.
Congratulations to the department of Social Sciences on its Golden Jubilee!

My experience was absolutely amazing! To be honest, before joining PGDHRD I was apprehensive about how things will work out for me in the department of Social Sciences because it was totally different from my UG major. But, I absolutely enjoyed all lectures and workshops, seminars, internship and finally the project.

The days spent in the department of social sciences are a big transitional stage in my life. We have conducted many program and worked together to make the program successful. All the faculty in the department were amazing, friendly, and easily approachable. The internship we did helped us to have hands on training in day to day working of an organisation. The seminars helped us to overcome our fear of public speaking. This PGDHRD course has totally changed me a lot in a positive way. I am very happy being a member of the department.
First of all Congratulations to the department of Social Sciences on its Golden jubilee! The one year journey in the department of Social Sciences has been one of the best times of my life.

When I joined this department, I had inhibitions that I would miss out on campus life. But I was proved wrong within a day or two. The atmosphere of this department was so lively and friendly that I always felt at home.

I can proudly say that I was taught by the best teachers. The department of Social Sciences has the most wonderful faculty. They took keen interest in the subject and made it interesting for us with regular class interactions. Doubts within and after class were always encouraged and our professors helped us in the projects we made. We had several interesting workshops and seminars which helped us to learn practically. We thank our department for arranging such interesting workshops.

I miss our department a lot. Finally, I thank the Almighty for making me a part of this department.
VARSHA
2010-2011

Sky is this Department and the faculty are its “Stars”. I am glad that I got an opportunity to study in this place. With great difficulty, my dad allowed me to study a year more after my B.Com and I think those difficulties I faced were worth it, because what I learnt from the department and the course PGDHRD are a million times more worth than the small difficulties.

The classes were fun with loads of activities, seminars, tests and lots more. During this course, we had two very interesting and interactive trips. One was Anugraha which I had missed due to some reason and the other one was to Trichy, where we were taught film making and documentary. It was just amazing. We had got the opportunity to learn and make a film or a documentary on our own and we also acted and it was something I really enjoyed. I respect all the teachers of the department.
NISHA
2010 - 2011

I am glad that I pursued Human Resource Management as my Post Graduation. This course helps the students to become more professional. It provides opportunities like seminar, presentation, volunteer activities, training and project.

Training in making short film, visiting different companies and making presentations, were all unique features of the department.

My journey in the department was incredible. I had magnificent experiences throughout the year by learning new things through lots of fun filled activities. I achieved a lot personally by gaining self confidence and identifying my potentials. All of the above wouldn’t have been possible without our teachers’ encouragement, nourishment and the trust they had upon us. Thank you so much for being there all the time, for making me a wonderful student and a good human being.
I take much pleasure to share my views on Social Sciences department.

Though it was a one year course, I had lot of experiences which turned out to be really important in my career. I cherish the year spent at the Social Sciences department, than my undergraduate years, for the support and encouragement that I had received from the faculty throughout, who nurtured me in all aspects, to become a confident individual.

The department gave me an opportunity, to mingle with all the seniors, and juniors who helped me realize my potentials in performing arts and helped me grow as a dancer.

I would like to thank each and every faculty of our department for giving us this wonderful opportunity.

I am so happy and proud to say that I have honed my academic as well as cultural skills by being a part of the department.
KARPAGAMBIKA
2010-2011

I really feel proud to have been a part of the Social Sciences department. Though it was a one year program, it made me feel that I had been in it for many years. Here, we learnt a lot and had a very good exposure. The main attraction towards this department would be the pillars of the department (the faculty). We were able to move freely with the faculty for each and every issue without hesitation, which we may not get anywhere else. This was a great encouragement for the students.

Within one year, the outreach programmes, seminars, workshops conducted by the department were a good exposure. We learnt the activities of various organizations within a short period of time, which was really amazing. I am stressing this point because my undergraduate course being BCA, I gained lots of information on management line within a limited period.

I really thank the entire faculty who has given their support and also the department for offering such a wonderful one year course.
RAISA
2010-2011

My experience in PGHRD not only prepared me for my career, but also enriched my life. I gained skills that couldn’t be taught elsewhere. Through interactions with fellow students, professors, internship supervisors, as well as other college staff, I earned a "degree" in social skills that I did not even sign up for. All the seminars and presentations helped me in gaining confidence and to improvise me in all possible ways.

I also enjoyed a lot during our counseling programme in Anugraha and our documentary movie making in Alaigal Media, Trichy. This course was really a journey of self-discovery for me. I wish all the best to the current students to make the best out of their college experience.
CYNTHIA  
2011 - 2012  

Refreshing my memories at SOC.

I remember my days at the department of Social Sciences. As part of a one year course, I initially thought that I would not have any emotional attachment to the department, but I was wrong. The department made me feel that I am important in every phase of my course.

It has been the most vital part of my individual growth. It was a retrospect learning for me as well, getting to know my potential, and how to excel from within. I have honed my skills as a short-film maker, program co-ordinator, organizer, good team worker, team leader, research scholar, and most of all, an equipped person with the right humanistic perspective. Now I can work, without expecting even a small recognition in return, but for fulfilling my self-satisfaction. I can look at life with a better perspective.

I had the most cherishable life time experiences in the department and I am sure it will be evident in my life. The values of equality, justice, love, care and affection will be obviously experienced by everyone who becomes a part of the department. The warmth that the department has wrapped around, can never be replaced or equalized elsewhere. I earnestly thank the department and above all, the Lord Almighty for this blessed experience with the department.

I am proud to be a Doakian and as a part of the family of the department of Social Sciences. I would like to dedicate a poem to the Department of Social Sciences…

“You have made a difference, you have shaped our minds
You have changed the world, one child at a time
You have always been there, in everything I do
I hope that I’ll make you proud of me, as I am proud of you”
PREETHI SHAHJEE
2011 - 2012

I feel immensely happy in getting an opportunity to be able to express my gratitude to the department of Social Sciences by way of expressing in the write up. There could be no better department than Social Sciences with such amazing teachers and friendly classmates. Whatever the department has accomplished is because of the continued efforts of the amazing teachers in guiding the students in a right way. They have always ensured that we are confident in all walks of life and are ready to face any challenges in life. We built wonderful memories of our life here with friends and teachers. The camps, tours, etc., were the wonderful times that we spent together and will be remembered always. SOC is the best department to be in. The way the teachers teach us with the most practical examples makes us relate it to our lives and help us take decisions wisely. I am really grateful to have taken up PGDHRD in the Social Sciences department because, had I not taken up this course it would have been like, I have missed the most enjoying and promising part of my education. I am really thankful to my teachers who have helped me in all ways to be a better person in the society.
SUHASINI
2011 - 2012

DAYS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

The course that I did helped me to evolve as a confident person, by honing my interpersonal and communication skills. It gave me exposure for project and internship which helped me a lot in my post graduate management studies.

We were a small batch who thoroughly enjoyed our short stint at the department. The faculty were very encouraging and gave us various platforms to showcase our talents and improve our academic as well as cultural skills.

"You cannot love life until you live the life you love."
So enjoy every moment that you have and make it purposeful.
REMINISCENCES
POST GRADUATE STUDENTS
KRISHILTA
MSW- 2007-09

I feel one of the biggest challenges in life is to understand oneself and then to be that self. It requires a complex mixture of introspection, understanding others and continuous evaluation of one’s actions and perceptions which my department taught me. From my 5 years of college life, I learnt to be independent, optimistic, outspoken and solving unsolvable issues in my life. We could freely communicate with our teachers; they would perceive our problems from our point of view and give better solutions. They would support us emotionally and give us hope in our life. We are gifted to have a department where they give importance to both Social and Psychological aspects of life. I am proud to be a “Sophian”. Thank you teachers for making me a successful person in my life!

MARY MAGDALENE
PGDPR&HRM 2006-2007
MSW 2007-2009

It gives me great pleasure to share my wonderful experience with the department of Social Sciences.

I was very immature when I was admitted in the department. It is only through this department that I learnt to be self-confident and become a professional. The motivation of my teachers and the strong support of my friends molded me. I am grateful to this department and you are always remembered in my prayers.
As a fresh candidate from school, I stepped into the department with an outlook that is too narrow (which I realize only now) and with a mindset. I can say, this department opened up the window for me to see through, what the world really is – not just with what was taught to me within the four walls, but also with how our teachers presented themselves to us. I could learn at least one virtue from each of them – *simplicity and humaneness, inquisitiveness and intellectual curiosity, emotional stability and kindness, appropriate physical presentation, enthusiasm and a positive attitude towards life’s challenges, an ability to motivate others, organized way of doing things, professionalism, self-confidence and competence, piety and humility* to name a few.

They listened to us, motivated us, offered us support, both moral and emotional, and struggled to bring the best out of us. I even remember myself doing things for the sake of doing it, just with the push of my teachers. But I realized the hidden benefits of those ‘pushes’ only as I grew up. Out of those people in my life who know me considerably well, my teachers are the ones who can define me right. They identified the uniqueness in each one of us.

The department is energized with a humanitarian attitude. It is in this department that I could invent the positive side of myself and my unbeaten potentials. The part of me, which I am projecting to a great extent in my work life, is the product of my presence in this department. All the experiences, both happy and painful, which I went through during my college days have chiseled me into a good human being.

THANK YOU TEACHERS!!!

Proud and privileged to be a ‘Sophian- Doakian’!
It was a great experience being here in the department of Social Sciences. I learnt many things being in the department for two years. Now, when I look back, I feel the changes. How time changes and how life keeps on moving without a pause, people come, people go, we laugh, we cry, some really sad moments, some really happy! Life is so beautiful in its own way.

I still vividly remember my first day in college. I was so excited in meeting new people. The college felt like liberation for me. Our class was 20 in number and we were all together always then and now too. In my last 2 years of MSW, I met many people. I was attached to many and worked and enjoyed with everybody I came across. I discovered a different me and I improved as well, in terms of public speaking, anchoring, organizing and so on…

My department was a training ground on how to be successful and become good people. All I can now recall is that first event which we hosted, those proxies, talks etc. Hanging out at shopping malls, rehearsals, practices….improvements… exams…. long travels…. trips…. picnics…. always 11th hour preparation for exams… And so on… life was always fun and exciting here….

We have learnt very good problem handling skills and stress management….. How to meet deadlines … by completing a week long assignment overnight… All those group tasks which compelled us to stay up all night with our talk on…. All those frequent semester exams…. 

My internships and other co curricular activities, competitions, presentations and conferences, which my department gave me an opportunity, were like a turning point which gave me a very good exposure. I am always thankful to my department where I was able to sense the real me. Apart from these, I met many who contributed to my life in one way or the other. I was encouraged, appreciated and criticized from time to time. But, it always added towards my learning and helped me to learn and become better with every step.
And I feel blessed because whenever I look back I find my people and my friends standing there for me.

SARASWATHI NANDHINI
2010 – 2012

Life at Social Sciences!

I am grateful for this wonderful opportunity for everything I received from this department. To pursue MSW at the department of Social Sciences of Lady Doak College itself was a great twist in my life. But, I must say these two years of my life journey with Social Sciences department was the golden period. Along with the course content, the department teaches us the lessons for life. It provides a chance to realize the self and to modify our personality which adorns us for a better career and a much better life. They took unique care to see to it that each one of us were moulded as shining stars.

Each of my teachers played a vital role in tuning me. I would like to thank each of them for what they taught me and my sincere thanks to them for inspiring, supporting and motivating me every time. I am grateful to them for their encouragement and for inculcating perfection and punctuality in me.

The workshops and seminars made us more responsible. The student exchange program to Canada gave me a lot of exposure, and a new experience making me a stronger person today. The guidance and support from the mentors of the department paved way for my growth.

The secret of our department is the team spirit, friendliness, support and fun-filled sharing among the students and teachers. I am really proud to be a part of Social Science family.
I take it as a great privilege to share a few words of the experience I had in the department of Social Sciences. The past five years in this department has been a motivating factor, where I realized my potentials and the hidden talents in me. The constant encouragement from the staff gave me the perfect platform to exhibit my extracurricular talents and bring out the best in me scholastically too. With regard to academics, all the papers were perfectly related to our life and it turned out to be a very interesting period of education as every aspect was much more practical. I developed my reading habits too. The challenging tasks that were placed before us like seminars, assignments and field work, transformed me to be more self confident and to realize my abilities. In short, the time spent in this department was a transformation period in my life and it became another school where I learnt my basics.
"A college degree is not a sign that one is a finished product but indicates that a person is prepared for life."

-Reverend Edward A. Malloy

College life is the golden era in everybody's life. I found guidance, friendship, discipline and love and everything else in one place, that is the department of Social Sciences. I feel fortunate for being a part of the department for 2 years and having completed my Masters degree in Social Work. The essence of education the department provided, drew out the very best in me and moulded me as a different individual, to face life's challenges that came my way. The department provided me a platform to live life, follow my passion, access information, observe, reflect and helped me get inspired by the wise and courageous faculty. Every piece of knowledge I acquired from the department has a value at this moment exactly proportional to my skill to deal with. Tomorrow, when I know more, I will recall every piece of knowledge and use it better. I take this opportunity to thank the Head of the Department and all the other Professors of the department for their constant guidance and support which has served as a pillar for all that I have achieved.
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
1963-2013

FACULTY TEAM
2013-2014

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
CURRENT FACULTY TEAM SHARES . . .

Caroline Nesabai

Looking through the history of article writing in the Department of Social Sciences, I could find there were quite a few articles written in the college magazine by my predecessor, the then Head of the Department Dr. A.J. Thinakaran. The articles were mostly focused on current events of both national and international. Keeping pace with that trend I was wondering what some of the crucial issues of today are. Could it be killing of whistle blowers in India or Snowden’s leak on NSA spying, murder of Narendra Dabholkar, an activist from Maharashtra or shooting spree in West Gate shopping centre, Nairobi and suicide bomb attack at All Saints Memorial Church, Peshawar built in 1883, or violence against women like rape, honour killing, acid attack, physical or mental abuse or execution and amnesty or the common issues of Organic farming and crash down of Emu Poultry.

My mind is clogged. I feel numbed, choked and rusted when I think of issues around me every day. Hundred years before, Rabindranath Tagore wrote “When will my Country awake? “If we are sleeping we can wake up. If we act as if we are sleeping, never can we be awakened.

I recently overheard a twelfth standard student’s conversation while travelling in a public transport, narrating an incident of how she was denied to attend her class mates wedding who was 16 years old. The police was given a bribe to hush up the complaints on child marriage. Child marriage is an offence but the executers of law become the perpetrators of the breach of law. When will my Country Awake?

Recently I witnessed the laying of roads which took a year long for completion. Alas within few weeks, the rain came and the underground drainage got blocked, there were potholes, efforts were taken to rectify the drainage system and the road turned bumpy within a month. Who is the contractor who laid the road and who is the Engineer who planned the
drainage system? Ignorant public were kept in darkness blissfully. When will my Country Awake?

When I encounter my young blooded students, the present day youth who are partially trapped in relationships and technology and partially ignorant of anything that is happening around, partially engrossed with her selfish career goals and partially drained with her routine chores and social demands, I sympathize for their future. The country which has a maximum number of youth population, soon going to grey and the youth are fatally ill equipped to face challenges. When will my Country Awake?

Beautiful canal right behind my house which was once flowing with crystal clear water at least during monsoon is now connected to the underground drainage of selfish and insensitive peoples’ houses and it stinks throughout the year. A few years back, I read in papers that the rivers are polluted due to untreated water for industries connected to the rivers. Now with my naked eye, I helplessly watch the miscreants breaking those roads to lay the connection between their underground drainage and the Canal which is eventually made to stink. When will My Country Awake?

Schools were started initially with much difficulty but with a sense of devotion and dedication promote a healthy atmosphere for a creative individual to bloom and to know one’s own self. Unfortunately, the communication of education led to mushrooming of schools with political nexus which ruined not only the environment but drained the healthy brain of young innocent children. When will my Country Awake?

My country, a land of pride with past glory but neglected and abused, fastening the divide between rich and poor, sacrificing the hard earned principles of liberty and freedom, withholding the sense of justice and equity, When will my Country Awake?
Social networking through internet is the biggest revolution of the 21st century. The youth of today consider it as a fascinating means for discovering the self through self expression and networking and this trend has become indispensable in today’s life. This astonishing growth in communication technologies compelled the netizens to be part of this new mode of technology. Not having an account in Facebook or Twitter can humiliate one’s social existence.

Ideas whether good or bad, right or wrong require a medium to diffuse and social media serves as a viable platform for easier dissemination of ideas. The concept of social networking is similar to nuclear energy. It can be used for constructive and destructive purposes. In the coexistence of good and bad, positive and negative, an alert user of social media should develop the skill to choose what is constructive, healthy and helpful and keep disparaging elements at bay.

It is startling to know that today young people suffer from Internet Addiction Disorder (IAD). Research indicates that excessive use of computer for networking is associated with loss of spatial time perception, neglect of basic human drives, feelings of withdrawal, high anxiety when there is a breakdown, unjustifiable need for the latest software and chronic fatigue. It is not uncommon to find people accessing their Facebook or Twitter while travelling or in between meals or even while engaged in any other activity because for many people the day is incomplete without social media.

So the parents and young people of this cohort have an exceptional obligation to take proactive measures, to get them off this merry go round and put in touch with the real world of healthy family upbringing. At the end of the day, nothing can substitute the human factors of kindness, concern, benevolence and gentleness that build relationships.
Dr. Synthia Mary Mathew

THE TRAVELLER

While on a journey with fellow travellers;
At a certain instant I came to a cozy spot,
The place was so warm, the moment so good.
Detesting the next step I stayed on;
Freezing myself at the moment, at the spot.
Later from there I watched those who walked on;
Peeping at them through a pinhole.
My view got restricted and I felt the freeze.
I moved a bit and the sight enlarged...
I saw my co travellers moving far ahead;
They had grown, changed and matured.
I looked at myself and then to my horror;
I realized the moment I froze, I had begun to die.
I was travelling on a train from Bangalore to Madurai last week. Our co-passengers were having a one-year-old child. I observed the parents doting the child as she smiled so sweetly. A mere whimper made the mother jump and mix the milk in the bottle and feed the child to its fill. I noticed their patience as the father and mother alternated the child in their arms to rock her to sleep. The task of raising a child is not easy. It is arduous and cumbersome, calls for immense patience, sacrifice and effort and quite an expensive task. Yet… no parent has ever complained about raising children as a burden. It is always a joy and there will always be moments of pride for parents to watch their children grow and become independent.

Then, at what stage does this growing child start considering her parent as a burden? What are the factors that make children send their parents to OLD AGE HOMES FOR CARE? What makes them think THAT IT IS DIFFICULT FOR them TO CARE FOR THE ELDERLY IN the HOMES where they grew up in?

Modernization theory states that, when societies became industrialized, the social structure changed. Families became nuclear and the boundaries of responsibility shrunk to the family of orientation. The kinship range narrowed down to just the nuclear family alone. One person who lives in an old age home puts it like this “A family nowadays means me, my spouse and my children. Parents have got excluded from the inner circle and have been pushed out”.

Laws have been drafted by the Indian government to remind people of their responsibility in taking care of the maintenance and welfare of parents. Somewhere over the rainbow… there seems to be something wrong! Does it irk you when your parents, who raised you in all tenderness now say they are a burden to you because they have become dependent on you, because you are too busy?? I am highlighting the shift that has taken place in the attitude of the youth as they arrive at a consensus in relating to care and protection of their very own parents who have given them their all, when they were in the formative years.
When it comes to taking care of older persons in the family, IS THERE A NORMATIVE CONSENSUS OR WOULD WE CALL IT NORMATIVE CONFUSION?

I take pride in being the alumna of the department of Social Sciences and the exposure to three major disciplines, namely Sociology, Psychology and History has been an eye opener to perceive social issues. Having graduated in the department in 1988, I was recruited in 1994 as faculty in this department. The academic discipline and the interest inculcated by my teachers towards the subjects has been an inspiration to me. I now have the opportunity to teach social gerontology classes for the undergraduate students of Social Sciences and one agenda in handling this course is that, students will be sensitive to their older kin in providing for them their rights and dignity, in making them feel secure and protected.

I wish and pray that the department will continue to be an inspiration to the many students who will pass through the portals of this ever favourite department.
Ms. Anita Tiphagne

When I entered the department of Social Sciences in September 1999 as a student of the B.A. Social Sciences programme, little did I know that I was entering a space that will be mine for a long time. I only knew that I was getting exposed to subjects I loved and through the three years, I was equipped with a wider perspective about individuals and our society.

Today, as a faculty of Social Work in the same department, at the helm of my 7th year of teaching, I have had the opportunity of nurturing many more students just as I was nurtured. I have had the privilege of facilitating students as they become stronger, sensitive, socially conscious young women ready to take on a challenging society.

A journey of 50 years is being celebrated now... a celebration of numerous lives touched.... a celebration of initiatives that have reached out to community.... and a commitment of a lifetime ahead....

We have much more to achieve... it is now our responsibility to carry forward the torch.... to continue this commitment.... We dare not be reticent but dare to move on to scale greater heights.
Ms. Kajal J Mehta

"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

-- Mother Teresa

It gives me an immense pleasure in being part of the department of Social Sciences. I belong to the management discipline. I started my teaching career from this department to handle classes for Post Graduate Diploma in Public Relations and Personnel Management, which by time has become Post Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Development and today it has been almost 9 years traveling the history of this multidisciplinary department. Since the beginning of my career I have seen this department growing horizontally in terms of courses offered at UG, PG and Diploma, in terms of composition of faculty from different discipline and in terms of students hailing from different backgrounds and disciplines. Unique character of the department that actually helped me grow in my career and personal life is its very nature of multi disciplinary. I have actually visualised how different discipline influence us to carry different perspectives on same matter which in terms influences individual life. This department taught me to take decisions after seeing not only with a holistic view but also with an open mind of accepting change. The autonomy, trust, confidence and respect people carry for each other makes me feel proud being part of the department.

My journey with the department reminds me of my seniors who had always motivated me, encouraged me to innovate things, and carried an attitude of 'you first' let it be discussion, choice with work load, space of choosing committee work, and consulting where required irrespective of age difference. This journey is also incomplete with faculty joining with me and after me, work was always fun and laughter and an attitude of sharing with my colleagues.

As the road to success is always under construction, so do I still have lot to learn from my students who are one of my teaching pillars. I cherish my memories with different sets of
students I meet each year. We learnt together, had fun together and supported each other in being part of the journey of the department.

Department has also helped me network with different organisations and create a network with service sector and manufacturing sector to meet the demands of fieldwork and project.

I would like to conclude with Mahatma Gandhi’s word “Keep your thoughts positive because your thoughts become your words. Keep your words positive because your words become your behavior. Keep your behavior positive because your behavior becomes your habits. Keep your habits positive because your habits become your values. Keep your values positive because your values become your destiny.” I congratulate the department and wish success for the future.
Ms. Alice Eliza Sherina

I never even imagined that one day I would become a faculty in the department of Social Sciences. I still remember the days when I was a student in the department of Social Sciences as a loner, but God has had a better plan for my life. I can boldly say, compared to that, I am a better person today, because of the role that the department has played in my life. I express my gratitude to my teachers of the department for bringing such positive changes in my life, in their own unique ways. I am happy to be a part of this Golden Jubilee Celebrations. God willing, I pray and wish to be a part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. I humbly pray that the department continues in impacting young minds and changing lives. I feel highly responsible to carry forward the vision that was carried by the teachers of our department. I understand the main purpose of this department is not just to teach students a way to earn their livelihood but teach them a way of life that creates a better place for everyone around and be a blessing to the larger society.
Ms. Franciba

*Teachers affect eternity; no one can tell where their influence stops.* - Henry Brooks Adams

Never did I think that I would start my career as a teacher. I entered the department with too many doubts on my ability to take up this great responsibility of inspiring young people. I was happy to know that the department had stepped into its Golden Jubilee year. Two years of experience in the department, more as a learner than a teacher has helped me change myself into a responsible teacher. I am still in the process of learning from the faculty and the students of the department. Being a member of the journey towards the Diamond Jubilee of the department, I feel much more committed in creating socially responsible citizens, which requires more intention, attention and time. I thank God for placing me in this department, the right place for me to learn, unlearn and practice values, which will help me in the process of transforming myself and students.
Ms. Jemmy

“THE MAGIC”

Childhood days are usually considered to be the “golden period” or “best period” of our lives. Life was magical and exciting, and the smallest things were thrilling to us. We were fascinated when dropping glassware, tearing papers and moving a toy. Our imagination had no limits and believed that life was magical. This might be one of the reasons why adults want to be around children. However, somewhere through our growing up years, we have lost this sense of magic and excitement. Life has become more stressful and depressing. So how could we bring back this magical life we experienced as children?

The Book “The Magic” by Rhonda Byrne has explained vividly about the simple steps that could be used for making our lives more interesting and adventurous. The book goes on to say how being grateful for the things we have right now, we can make wonders. “Like attracts like”. This is a Universal Law.

In our lives, this law operates on our thoughts and feelings because they are energy. So whatever we think or feel, we attract those things back to us. So being more grateful for things we have we will attract those things back to us. We have heard the same law before in different forms, like, “You reap what you sow”, “You get what you give”. Well, all these basically explain the same law, ‘The Universal Law’. So what happens when we are grateful? Here is the promise “If you are grateful, you will be given more and you will have abundance”. The magic of life is real - and it is as real as you are!!!
India is a country with abundant natural resources, hard working manpower, talented young mind and a fast developing economy. Indian companies are racking in millions. Indian firms have globalized their operations and expanded their business to unprecedented levels. This had led to ‘corporate corruption’. The high-fi modern corporate sectors eat millions and millions of money. The corporate breed in many ways like tampering with their account books, evading taxes, showing inflated profit margins, bribing Government officials to obtain permits and licenses and manipulating the share market. This has spread to every segment of society from top to bottom. The latest corruption like the coal-gate, 2-G, Common wealth games scam and Adarsh Housing society scam would put even the most back ward countries to shame.

This money should be used for constructive purposes. Some promising steps to root out corruption have come from the Government. The Government needs to ensure transparency at all levels. Officials are fearful than before about getting caught for corruptions. Media’s role in highlighting corruption need to be appreciated. A number of investigative journalists through their sting operations and reports have nailed down quite a few high profile individuals indulging in corruption. They have helped to instill fear factor among everyone. But still a lot more needs to be done, especially to nab the officials at the higher levels and corporate scamsters.

Each one of us can help in rooting out corruption by simply refusing to pay bribes to anyone, no matter how urgent our need is. With earnest efforts from the government along with public cooperation, we can hope to drive out corruption from our country one day and ensure a better future for the coming generations.
VISION 2023

Onward journey…..Reflections

At the completion of 50 years of academic service, the department of Social Sciences looks forward to its onward journey towards Diamond Jubilee 2023.

The department aims to enhance its social relevance by becoming a research and resource center fostering social development through intensified academics, research and extension activities. As service always begins at home, the department aspires to make its stronger impression being felt at campus by contributing towards ongoing college programmes and activities. By strengthening its existing ties with the feeder sections, local organizations and the larger civil society through annual newsletters and collaborative actions, the department aspires to be a proactive force of empowerment.

The department hopes to join hands with all its collaborators in the process of creating social justice and democracy and thus build a strong great nation.
"The Department of Social Sciences continues its journey of building "a nation which is not defined by its borders or the boundaries of its land mass rather, a nation that is defined by diverse people who have been unified by a cause and a value system and who are committed to a vision for the type of society they wish to live in and give to the future generations to come"

- Fela Darotove
(paraphrased)